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RAY WILKINS Manchester Utd.

World SOCCER

Tough day for Britain

by GRAHAM NICKLESS

NEXT WEDNESDAY, October 3, is decision day for Great Britain's top clubs in Europe.

Only Leeds United and Ipswich Town — emphatic winners in the first round, first leg, of their UEFA Cup-ties against Valetta and Skeid — appear to be home and dry.

But the biggest questions to be answered on the second big night in Europe will be asked in Russia, Sweden and Glasgow where Liverpool, Nottingham Forest and Celtic do battle in the European Cup respectively.

Liverpool, the English League champions, have an almighty task to hold on to their 2-1 lead against top team Dinamo Thilisi.

Dinamo caused a near sensation at Anfield by giving the mighty "reds" a few frights before going down. Liverpool fans were quick to applaud the mighty Russians who attacked Liverpool with some of the best football seen from a visiting side to Anfield for many a year.

Goals by Johnson and Case give the English club a little bit of breathing space although not much, for Chivadze's solitary score leaves the Russians the task of notching just a one-goal victory at home to win the tie on the away goals ruling.

Scotland's big representatives in Europe's top knock-out competition are Celtic, and they will need to find all their best form to beat Albanian army club Partizan Tirana, who lead 1-0 thanks to a Murati goal.

Celtic, one of the most hardened campaigners in Europe, are having a good season so far in their Premier Division and will enjoy the hurdle that awaits them.

Cup holders Forest, who beat Malmo 1-0 in last season's final, should come through their second leg against Sweden's Osters, although manager Brian Clough would have been far happier with something better than just a 2-0 advantage.

Forest, showing inconsistent form in the Football League, are not producing the brand of football expected of them although they are still regarded as one of the top teams in the First Division.

Trevor Francis, the first £1 million-plus player in Great Britain, is expected to line-up in the second leg in Osters, having recovered from a niggling leg injury following his return from America.

Francis, the man who headed Forest's fine winner against Malmo, is the sort of player who loves the big occasion and his presence will certainly lift the Forest team.

If there are any questions to be answered in the European Cup then there are even more to be solved in the Cup Winners' Cup first-round games.

London's only representatives in this competition, Arsenal, could only manage to knock-up a 2-0 score against Turkish team Fenerbahce and have been promised a difficult time by the Turks' manager in the second leg.

Arsenal completely dominated their game at Highbury but could only score through Sunderland and defender Young, whose goal came near the final whistle.

Glasgow Rangers have a much stiffer task against West German's Fortuna Dusseldorf, having only achieved a 2-1 lead in front of their own fans.

Second Division Wrexham, Wales' only representatives in Europe, look to be heading for an early exit having only just scraped home with a 3-2 win over East Germany's Magdeburg.

Leeds and Ipswich will enjoy their home second-leg confrontations in the UEFA Cup for the former club leads Maltese side Valetta 4-0, while the latter holds a comfortable 3-1 advantage over Skeid, of Norway.

First Divison strugglers West Bromwich, however, face a difficult task of pulling back a 2-0 deficit against Carl Zeiss Jena in their second meeting at The Hawthorns.

WBA's sad form this season in the Football League is a major talking point in British football this season, although Laurie Cunningham's departure to Real Madrid and a serious injury to Cyrille Regis hasn't helped their cause.

Liverpool's Merseyside rivals, Everton, have little to smile about as well, for they must turn a 1-0 deficit into their favour against Dutch crack side Feyenoord at Goodison Park if they are to save an early exit.

Belgium club Anderlecht, who held Scottish team Dundee United to a 0-0 draw north of the border, should finish the job off in front of their own supporters whereas Aberdeen face an equally stiff journey to Eintracht Frankfurt, having only managed a 1-1 draw from the first leg.

Ireland's best performance overseas came when Waterford restricted Swedish team IFK Gothenburg to a solitary 1-0 goal victory and can now look forward to an interesting second leg in the Cup Winners' Cup.

England winger Laurie Cunningham is the toast of Real Madrid. Following his two-goal debut against Valencia last month, he sent an ecstatic Real Madrid 110,000 crowd wild with delight by scoring the winner in a 3-2 victory over Barcelona to put his new club on top of the Spanish First Division.

Tanco (left) of Real Madrid in action against Rayo Vallecano. Real Madrid won 2-1 and top the Spanish League.

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ARE PLAY-OFFS OPEN TO ABUSE?

ROCHESTER Lancers controversial goalkeeper Shep Messing shook the North American Soccer League shortly after the regular season ended by stating that during a crucial game between the Lancers and the New England Tea Men it was suggested to him that he deliberately let in a goal and that the Tea Men goalkeeper Kevin Keelan would do the same so that both teams would qualify for the play off.

However, Messing later stated that his comment to a reporter had been twisted and that the suggestion made to him by Rochester captain Mike Stojanovic had not been a serious one. Messing said that he had brought it to the attention of the press in order to point out that the NASL play off system was open to such abuse.

The situation arose as Rochester, the Toronto Blizzard and the Seattle Sounders were neck and neck for the final play off spot in the National Conference. Rochester had to beat New England and score three goals in the process in order to be sure of a play off spot, while the Tea Men needed one goal to be sure of a play off spot. The game ended 2-0 and the suggestion to trade goals was made in the final minutes of the game, whether seriously or in jest will be decided by a league inquiry after the season is over.

This year's NASL All Star teams are even more puzzling than usual in that the back four of the first team contains three centre backs, Carlos Alberto and Wim Rijsbergen of New York and Mike Connell of Tampa Bay to one left full back, Bruce Wilson of Chicago.

Situation

In the second team the situation is reversed with three left backs being selected — Marinho of New York, John Gorman of Tampa Bay and Bobby Lenarduzzi of Vancouver — to one centre back, Mihalj Keri of Los Angeles. Presumeably this would seem to indicate that there are no right backs in the league capable of making the first or second all star teams.

In midfield, too, the selections are strange in that Franz Beckenbauer and Johann Neeskens of New York are named to the first team yet both only played for part of the season. They are joined by South African Ace Ntsolengoe of Minnesota for whom the honour is long overdue and well deserved.

Canada Youth go out

AFTER surprising almost everyone by beating Portugal 3-1 in their opening game of the World Youth Championship in Kobe, Japan, Canada eventually went down 1-0 to South Korea and 3-0 to Paraguay and were thus eliminated.

It was a performance that the Canadians could be proud of and marks just one more step along the road towards making Canada a nation that can compete with the best in the world.

The Canadian team included only four players with even some first class experience and that obtained in the North American Soccer League. Goalkeeper Chris Turner played 16 games for the San Jose Earthquakes this season, Ian Bridge 14 games at centre back for the Seattle Sounders, Danny Lenarduzzi six games as a substitute for the Vancouver Whitecaps and striker Branko Segota 13 games for the Rochester Lancers.

Segota got two of Canada's goals against Portugal, the other coming from winger Lou Nagy. But Canada could not overcome the Koreans in the second game and lost their chance of reaching the quarter finals right there, for the experience of Paraguay was too much for them in a game they had to win.

EARLY START FOR MALTA

HARDLY had the local teams started their pre-season training when the Maltese national team faced Tunisia in a friendly international in late August.

For national coach Victor Scerri this fixture came too early and so sudden; in fact it was a surprise invitation from Tunisia some three weeks before.

Naturally he had to rely on the 'best out of a bad lot' and Sliema Wanderers, Hibernians and Valletta provided the elements for the Malta eleven since they were the first three to start their preperations for European commitments.

Worse still, the two Floriana internationals George and Ray Xuereb could not make it because they had not yet signed a new contract, for their club and according to new MFA rules, players who are not training with their clubs cannot be called up for national duty.

Mid-fielder Emmanuel Farrugia of Valletta was also missing from the line-up which faced Wales last June at the Stadium and both full-backs Buckingham and Farrugia were injured early in the second half during the match.

Anyway, the game resulted in a 0-4 defeat for Malta at the Stade Zouiten and what was supposed to be a warming up for Malta's next encounter in the European Championships against Turkey, left Mr. Scerri with more problems to solve.

The three clubs, Hibernians, Sliema Wanderers and Valletta, Malta's European representatives this season, were engaged in the Mlatese soccer season 'curtain raiser' Independance Cup — a sort of triangular tournament on a one round basis. Valletta won the cup with a 1-0 win over Sliema Wanderers and a 2-0 positive display against champions Hibernians. In the other match Sliema Wanderers also beat Hibernians 1-0.

At the time of writing, Hibernians will be facing Dundalk from the Republic of Ireland and this could be the only chance for a Maltese side to go through to the next round. In the Cup Winners Cup, the more experienced Sliema Wanderers will face Boavista, the tough Portuguese side in a very difficult fixture for the locals.

Valletta also have a very hard encounter, but at least more 'reasonable' from the technical point of view, against the renowned English club Leeds United in the U.E.F.A. cup.

Last season's national championship format, with two groups of five teams each, the winners and runners-up of each playing in the championship pool, did not give the desired success and the MFA resorted back to the 'old' system — each of the ten clubs will play each other on a two-round basis.

However, it is felt 10 is too big a number for Malta's first division and rumors have it that maybe a Premier Division will be introduced in Malta for season 80/81.

Champions Hibernians must improve considerably, judging on their current form, if they intend to retain the championship for the second year running.

Floriana have still a few problems to solve, even though they at last came to terms with the Xuereb brothers and with rather a young side, they may not be the usual force in the Maltese championship.

So it could be either Sliema Wanderer's or Valletta's year. The former can give any side a very difficult match on their day, while the club from the capital has shown signs of improvement over last season and the players are combining well in a bid that could see them champions for the second time in three years.

Malta's remaining fixtures in the European Championship are at home against Turkey in October and away to West Germany, exactly four months later in February. Already out of contention, Malta looks forward to the next commitments bearing in mind to keep flying high its prestige on the European soccer scene, especially when so needed by our amateurs in 'away' matches.

from

COLIN

JOSE

Fabbiani tops the scoring charts in the NASL

However, over the season the second team midfield of Teofilo Cubillas of Fort Lauderdale, Vladislav Bogicevic of New York and Alan Ball of Vancouver has a superior record to the first team.

Up front it would seem that the players who selected the teams don't believe in wingers for neither team includes one Giorgio Chinaglia (New York), Trevor Francis (Detroit) and of course Johan Cruyff of Los Angeles made the first team. Oscar Fabbiani (Tampa Bay), Karl-Heinz Granitza (Chiacogo) and Gerd Muller (Fort Lauderdale) were the second team.

Strikers

In actual fact it is doubtful if either Cruyff or Granitza could be considered true strikers at all for both played very deep at times with Grantiza even playing some games at centre back.

Phil Parkes of Vancouver was an obvious choice as the first team goalkeeper as was Paul Hammond of Houston in the second.

Canadian goalkeeper Jack Brand, who was traded by the New York Cosmos to the Tulsa Roughnecks and then refused to go because he was not consulted on the move, was finally persuaded to move, and he was in goal for Tulsa when they beat New York 3-0.

It was the only time this season so far that New york has been shut out, but in the second game to Cosmos put three goals past their former goalkeeper in the regular game and three more in the mini game.

Tulsa defender Greg Ryan the young American who was also part of that trade has done his career more harm than good in moving to the Cosmos moving from a regulas spot in the Tulsa line up to playing occasionally as a substitute in New York. Promising young American players like Ryan will not farther their careers sitting on the bench.

Projected

The projected move of the Memphis franchise to Phoenix, Arizona which seemed a certainty two months ago is now off with the Rogues now planning to stay in Memphis, for the time being.

Argentinian striker Oscar Fabbiani is the new NASL scoring champion topping last years champion Giorgio Chinaglia of the Cosmos. Fabbiani scored 25 goals and got 8 assists in 26 games for 58 points against 26 goals and 5 assists in 27 games for Chinaglia. Third was Gerd Muller of Fort Lauderdale with 19 goals and 17 assists for 55 points.

Finnish born American Timo Liekoski, coach of the Houston Hurricane has been voted coach of the year in the NASL for his performance in leading the Hurricane to the championship of the Central Division in the American Conference when everyone expected his club to be struggling to even make the play offs.

Trevor Francis.

HONVED FALL FROM GRACE

by Keir Radnedge

I FOUND talking to Lajos Tichy an odd contradiction.

Here I was face to face with a man who played for Honved alongside Puskas, Kocsis, Bozsik and Czibor; a man who professed a longing for a return to the standards of the "good old days."

Yet a man whose Honved team I had just seen play two games of such suffocating intensity you wondered whether they really need bother with a goalkeeper at all!

Honved yesterday; Honved today.

Honved the famous basis for the Hungarian team of the 1950s; Honved now, the club who haven't won the league since 1956 and whose name has taken them nowhere in the secondary European competitions.

Because of the glory of the past, the forever association with the names of Puskas and Co, there will always be a ring to the name. But I have to report that Honved today are a long way from matching those standards.

Tichy, once Hungary's leading league scorer for four separate seasons, admits the problem. As well he might. For years Hungary have been in a crisis. And when Honved cannot even once land the championship in the years of setback upon setback, it doesn't say much for the leadership of the club or the players.

Once, in Eastern Europe, the army club's word was law. Honved led the way, having been founded in 1949 out of the old Kispest club. Players were ordered into the ranks on the directions of the national team's manager, Gutstav Sebes. Puskas and Bozsik had been there already; but Kocsis and Czibor were later — and initially resentful — additions.

Feelings

Success altered their feelings. Not only did Honved become world famous in their own right — the jubilation in England at their defeat at the hands of Wolves proves how highly they were regarded — but they played a key role in that four-year unbeaten stretch of the national team which ended only with the shock 3-2 defeat by West Germany in the 1954 World Cup Final in Berne.

It was the beginning of the end. In 1956 the team split up while abroad for a Champions' Cup tie with Bilbao. Many of the players eventually returned home, but the heart had gone from the club.

Changing ideologies in Eastern Europe saw power taken away from the army clubs — Honved in Hungary, Dukla in Czechoslovakia, CDNA in Bulgaria, CCA in Rumania. No longer could they call up — literally! — their players. Now they had to farm like the rest.

And Honved have never been the same.

Today's team is imposing to watch at first. All the first teamers stand six feet or more, Tichy has them well organised in a 4-4-2 formation, and they fold back in defence like a concertina.

But despite the guile in midfield of World Cup man Sandor Pinter; despite the skill of spearhead Istvan Weimper; despite the deadly free kicks of Mihaly Kozma; despite the sure handling of goalkeeper Sandor Gujdar . . . despite all this Honved remain a ghost, haunted by their past.

THE HISTORY

1909 — August 3. After five years loose organisation, Istvan Bede and Balint Varga decide to set up the Kispest Athletikai Club — football having been introduced to Hungary the previous century by an English athletics coach, Harry Perry.

1911 — Club record crowd of 6,000 watch derby with Ferencvaros.

1925 — Kispest win the Cup.

1932 — Kispest embark on a tour of Africa. Among the players is a young centre half named Ferenc Purczeld.

1938 — Kispest enter the Mitropa Cup, but go out 2-4 1-1 to Ambrosiana in the first round, despite the arrival in the squad of a bright inside forward who would later become a famous coach — Geza Kalocsai.

1939 — Ferenc Purczeld becomes first team coach and introduces his son, also named Ferenc, to the youth teams. About this time the father also decides to change his surname from the faintly Germanic Purczeld to the acceptable Hungarian . . . Puskas.

1944 – The German army retreat and Kispest reform for a Celebration Match. They beat Kolanyai-Ganz 4-1. Puskas junior players for Kispest — Stefan Nyers and Ladislav Kubala for Ganz.

1946 — A bad year. Kispest are on the wrong end of thrashings from Ujpest (8-0), Ferencvaros (7-0) and Csepel (13-0).

1947 — About turn — Kispest are runners-up. The difference is made by the settling in of Puskas and a young right half, a friend of his, Jozsef Bozsik. In 30 games they score 77 goals and concede 37. The prize is a close-season tour of Luxembourg and France arranged (already) by that late, shadowy figure, Julius Ukrainczyk.

Already a dream is coming true for Bozsik. Later he recalled: "When I was 10 I remember standing outside the Kisepst ground in tears because they would not let me in. I thought: 'Just wait, one day you'll be cheering me.' I was dreaming of revenge when Puskas's father pushed me through the gate. That's how I began with Kispest."

1948 — Fourth in the league. Puskas is the league's top scorer with 50 goals.

1949 — Third — 94 goals for, 46 against in 30 games. December 18: Kispest are no more. Instead the Ministry of Sport take over the club and turn it into the army team Honved.

1949-50 — Champions — beaten only three times. Puskas and Bozsik play in all 30 games and Puskas tops the league scoring with 31 goals. Puskas senior remains as coach.

1950 — A short championship with the alteration of the season span. Honved are champions again. Puskas scored 25 goals and again is the overall best. Kocsis, Czibor, and defender Lorant have arrived, and settled in.

1951 — Runners-up — but Kocsis is league goal king with 30 goals.

1952 — Champions — Kocsis again top scorer with 36 goals. He and half a dozen Honved colleagues then take Hungary to the Olympic title in Helsinki. In the final they beat Yugoslavia 2-0 despite a penalty miss by Puskas.

1953 — Runners-up. Puskas, with 27 goals, is top scorer in the league. Team coach now is Jeno Kalmar (who would later stay in the West and is now in Spain). It's a big year for international success. In a club friendly Honved beat Moscow Spartak 3-2 in a jam-packed Nepstadium. Bozsik scores twice — both goals made by Puskas — and Kocsis grabs a late winner. On the representative front Honved junior Lajos Tichy leads Hungary to a 2-0 victory over Yugoslavia (again!) in the UEFA Youth Final in Brussels. Then, on November 25, comes the greatest victory of all — by 6-3 over England at Wembley — England's first home defeat by a continental side. Puskas, Kocsis, Budai, Czibor, Bozsik, Lorant and Grosics are all there.

1954 – Champions again. Lajos Tichy earns bright notices as he takes his place in the team, while another youngster coming through as a rival for the centre forward spot is Ferenc Machos (later of Vasas). The league sees an incredible game between Honved and their biggest rivals, Voros Lobogo (Red Banner). Honved, without international goalkeepers Grosics and Lajos Farago, have to put in an unknown and the forwards have a busy time keeping pace with his mistakes. In the end Honved win 9-7!

But the major event is the World Cup — and the staggering blow of Hungary's 3-2 defeat by West Germany in the final, thus ending a four-year unbeaten run at the worst possible moment. Was Puskas fit enough to return for the final? Should Budai have been dropped? Was it too much of a gamble to switch Czibor from the left wing to the right? All the controversy afterwards centred on the Honved contribution.

October 15: Honved go to Brussels — not for the first or last time — to face England's West Bromwich in a charity match (25 years before Coruna, when no West Bromwich official or director could remember this game). Before a 60,000 crowd in the Heysel stadium Honved hit back to win 5-3 after being 3-1 down on the hour. Jimmy Nicholls (two) and Ronnie Allen score for Albion, Puskas, Czibor (two), Szoviak and Kocsis for Honved. Honved's one failure is young spearhead Tichy, who is substituted before the interval.

Honved: Crosics — Rakoczi, Lorant, Palicsko — Bozsik, Banyai — Szoviak, Kocsis, Tichy (Babolcsay 40), Puskas, Czibor.

Albion: Sanders — Rickaby, Kennedy, Millard — Dudley, Barlow — Griffin, Nicholls, Allen, Ryan, Lee.

December 13: Another Honved friendly

Joszef Kelemen a former Hungarian international and Honved player.

Tichy— loyal servant

against an English club — this time the famous Molineux clash with Wolves before a 55,000 crowd. Inside quarter of an hour Honved were 2-0 up — first Kocsis heads in a Puskas free kick after a Ron Flowers foul, then the 'Golden Head' sends Machos clear for No. 2.

Some fine saves by Farago keep Honved ahead, but a controversial 49th-minute penalty converted by Johnny Hancocks gives Wolves new heart. Inside two minutes, less than quarter of an hour from time, Dennis Wilshaw twice sets up Roy Swinbourne, first to equalise, then hit the winner.

"Wolves, champions of the world," say the papers next day, and Gabriel Hanot in Paris, provoked into action, sets about founding the European Champions' Cup to prove the lie.

Wolves: Williams — Stuart, Wright, Shorthouse — Slater, Flowers — Hancocks, Broadbent, Swinbourne, Wilshaw, Smith.

Honved: Farago — Rakoczi, Lorant, Kovacs — Bozsik, Banyai — Budai, Kocsis, Machos, Puskas, Czibor.

1955 — Champions. Machos and Czibor share top-scorers' award with 20 goals apiece. Tichy makes his international debut at senior level as substitute for Sandor Hidegkuti. In the Mitropa Cup Honved reach the semi-finals, thrash Voros Lobogo 5-2 in the first leg . . . then relax and crash 5-1 in the return.

● *Continued on page 50*

HONVED — the first team squad

Name	Age	Caps	Position
Sandor GUJDAR	26	25	Goalkeeper
Bela MENYHART	23	0	Goalkeeper
Sandor PAROCZAI	24	10	Right back
Istvan KOCSIS	30	28	Stopper
Antal NAGY	23	1	Sweeper
Jozsef VARGA	25	0	Left back
Ferenc FEJES	24	0	Defender
Sandor PINTER	28	38	Midfield
Jozsef PAL	29	3	Midfield
Laszlo DAJKA	20	0	Midfield
Sandor LUKACS	29	8	Utility
Bela BODONYI	22	0	Midfield
Istvan WEIMPER	26	5	Centre forward
Mihaly KOZMA	31	10	Forward
Laszlo GYIMESI	22	0	Forward

HONVED'S ALL-TIME TOP INTERNATIONALS

Jozsef Bozsik 100 games 11 goals (1947-62) — Ferenc Puskas 84-83 (45-56) — Ferenc Sipos 77 (57-66) — Lajos Tichy 71-49 (55-71) — Sandor Kocsis 68-75 (48-56) — Zoltan Czibor 43-17 (49-56) — Laszlo Budai 39-10 (49-59).

LAJOS TICHY you're now first-team coach with Honved — but how long have you been with the club?

"More than 25 years. I was in the first team squad for not far short of 20 years and I've been on the coaching staff for eight years. I had five years with the juniors and this is my third with the first team."

Honved are famous for being an army team, so what rank do you hold?

"None — I'm not in the military any longer. When I was a player Yes, I was officially in the military, though my duties were to play football. But a football coach is a civilian's job."

What impressions do you have of your days as a player in the 1950s and early 1960s?

"I loved that old football from those days. Even more looking back. It involved the fans much more than the game today. Now it's all organisation and logic. There's no soul in football nowadays. But some of the players I faced — Kubala, Bobby Charlton, Jimmy Greaves . . . they were magical. Marvellous. There's no-one to touch them now."

You played against England in Chile in the 1962 World Cup — do you remember the game well?

"Yes I do, it was our first game in the group and we won 2-1. I admired the English players then and I still like your football. In fact, I think England will win the 1982 World Cup here in Spain! I'll give you that tip now, for free! Why? Because the English are not only athletic but disciplined. They don't play only with their feet but with their heads. That's vital to win the big competitions."

Talking about the World Cup, why did Hungary fail so badly in Argentina last year?

"For 80 minutes of their opening game against Argentina they played perfectly well. Then two men lost their heads — Torocsik and Nyilasi. It was their own faults. They should have known what to expect in that situation. You can't blame provocation.

"But those expulsions finished the team. We might as well have packed up and gone home there and then. Morale and team spirit collapsed entirely.

"We could have lost to Argentina and still recovered against Italy and France if it hadn't been for the bad feeling the sendings-off brought."

That was only Hungary's second Finals appearance in 12 years. Why has your football gone backwards?

"I think football everywhere has gone backwards, not just in Hungary. It's a basic problem tied up with the state of youth in the world today. Football cannot be as it once was. The social backgrounds which created the hungry footballers are gone, except perhaps in the African countries — but they have a long way to go yet.

"I don't think young people today have the same sort of character as in my day. The student life is too comfortable, too appealing, for too many. And there's no longer the same kind of poverty to act as a spur."

What's the answer?

"First, football must cut out the violence. There's far too much in the world game. You see it in every World Cup, every European championship. Perhaps the money and other rewards are too great.

"But until football can again be seen to be played in a fair and sporting manner we will never attract back the sort of men who wish to improve standards — and too many of the best players will waste their talents because they will be inhibited by the tactics used against them."

Let's be more particular now — what happened to Honved last season after you led the table for so long?

"It's true we were playing well. Then, in the spring, after the midwinter break we lost six of our best men through illness and injury. No team, whoever they may be, can afford that sort of problem.

"So, we were overtaken and Ujpest are champions — again. But don't forget, we had a useful run in the UEFA Cup and beat Ajax, and even if they're not the team they once were, they went on to win the Dutch league and cup."

What does the future hold for Honved?

"You can't separate Honved and our problems from the overall problems of Hungarian football. As long as we have three or four top international players, as long as the national team depend on us in one way or another, as long as we are in the top three or four in the league . . . then I will be happy."

FLANAGAN AIMS FOR THE TOP

MIKE Flanagan, Crystal Palace's well-built striker, has set himself two targets. He wants to finish as the top goalscorer in the First Division and also to win himself a full international cap.

by Brian Marshall

It goes without saying that if he is in line to achieve his first objective his second will come along almost automatically.

There is little doubt that he has made a big impact upon the Selhurst Park scene but he is not slow to pay credit to the influence of Terry Venables.

Flanagan, himself, was only too delighted to join Palace after his problems with Charlton when it appeared at one stage his career in England had finished. He was at loggerheads with the Second Division club because he did not think he could enhance his career if he remained in their side.

This situation developed into a stalemate. Flanagan said: "I was determined to stick it out until I got my transfer. Several clubs were keen to sign me. Arsenal came in as did Manchester City. At one time it looked as if I would be heading back to America.

"There was talk that the Americans were prepared to match the fee required by Charlton but I wasn't keen to play in the States in this kind of situation. I will have no doubts near the end of my playing career but I thought I should achieve something in England before making this kind of move.

"But it is a long time to be out of the game and the lack of match fitness was a niggling doubt when I moved in at Selhurst Park. As it is, I'm pleased with the way things have worked out in the early weeks.

"Palace are a side who are going places and I'm only disappointed that I didn't join them earlier. It is a young, progressive side and in the few games in which I've played they have impressed with the talent in the team.

"In my opinion Palace are the side of the future and the success they have been seeking over the years could come a darned lot quicker than some people might imagine."

Flanagan will have a big part to play in this drive for honours. He himself is hoping to have a full season in the Palace colours. Over the past two seasons he has only appeared in 50 odd games for Charlton and scored 35 goals — form which warranted Charlton demanding the £650,000 they obtained off Palace.

The only black spot on his career was the incident which developed when he was sent off for fighting with his team-mate, Derek Hales. He walked out of the club after stating that he would never again play for the London club.

Flanagan was a man of his word but he discloses that the Hales incident was only part of his conflict with Charlton. It all stemmed from the previous summer when he returned from a highly successful period in the United States.

He had been allowed to join the New England Teamen for the start of their season and he responded with 30 goals in 26 games and was voted the player of the year. "I really enjoyed playing in America," said Mike, "it appeared to bring out my best play. I certainly became a more mature player for the experience and I think this is being reflected at the present time."

Pitfalls

The Palace striker is certainly aware of the pitfalls in soccer. His path to Crystal Palace has not been roses all the way. Far from it. His early aspirations were to play for Tottenham. He had a spell as an amateur at White Hart Lane where he came under the guiding arm of Pat Welton.

Unfortunately things did not work out for him at Tottenham and he was allowed to drift away. Charlton took an interest. They gave him a trial and later signed him on a contract.

The real turning point of his career, ironically, occurred when Derek Hales was transferred from Charlton to Derby County. The London club were then without a striker and Flanagan, who had previously operated on the left flank, was drafted into the middle.

It was a move which changed his whole career. His play took on a new dimension and now he is performing better than at any other time of his career. He is an England "B" international but he will only be satisfied when he has won his full cap.

Flanagan said: "The move to Crystal Palace for a record fee between two London clubs could not have come at a better time. I feel I am now reaching my peak and Crystal Palace are going to feel the benefit.

"Playing in such a talented side is also going to boost my career so the future looks pretty good — for both Palace and myself."

Ian Walsh of Crystal Palace.

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AJAX SACK COR BROM

THERE was a sensational start to the Dutch League season, when Excelsior, a team everyone had tipped for relegation, were leading the 'Eredivisie' after four games. Ajax, current champions and cup-winners, sacked their manager Cor Brom after just four games which left them with seven points.

The decision to sack Brom was made on Saturday, September 8, although the rift between Brom and Ajax began in January. It appeared at some stages to be all out war between club and manager although winning the double put Brom in such a strong position that Ton Harmsen — the Chairman of Ajax who was always against his manager — was unable to make any decision concerning his future.

However, when at the beginning of the season, the bad feeling between Brom and Ajax was not resolved, the board of Directors thought it wise that Bron and the club part company.

For the League match against Haarlem, the two remaining club trainers were responsible for the side. They were Bobby Haarms (the assistant trainer with Ajax for many, many years) and new man Leo Beenhakker: he is Ajax's tenth manager over the last twenty-years. His predecesors were Englishmen Rowley and Buckingham, who were followed by Michels, Kovacs, Knobel, Kraay, Michels again, Ivic and Brom.

Beenhakker, now 37, began his career as assistant-manager with Go-Ahead Deventer. He then became manager at Veedam for four years, SC Cambuur for three years and Go-Ahead Eagles for one year, before going to Feyenoord as youth team coach.

Last year he accepted the youth position at Ajax. He realises that it is very difficult to manage a first class club such as Ajax.

"A team with a reputation such as Ajax must win, that is a fact," said Beenhakker. "On the one hand it is a very attractive prospect to work with a top team, but on the other you know that there will always be someone who will want to attack your position."

Beenhakker's new term of office did not begin as he would have liked however. "We are fortunate that we are playing Haarlem tomorrow," said Mr Harmsen after the Brom decision. The match did not prove to be a happy one for Ajax, they drew 1-1.

Their solitary goal was scored by Henning Jensen, the former Borussia Moenchengladbach and Real Madrid striker who joined Ajax from the Spanish side for £150,000. As a natural left-winger he was not very successful being reverted to the centre of attack. He replaced Ray Clarke who went to FC Bruges of Belgium.

Although he did not play particularly well, Jensen scored five goals in five matches, but was dropped for game number six. That was the away match against AZ '67 who up until then were the joint leaders. Both Ajax and AZ '67 had eight points from their first five games, but Ajax surprisingly beat Alkmaar 3-2.

Jensen is third in the goal scoring table so far this season. Nanninga, the Dutch international has scored six goals, but the

LAURIE CUNNINGHAM made a sensational start to his league career in Spain — scoring two goals and making the third for centre forward Santillana in Real Madrid's 3-1 opening win over Valencia.

Cunningham was mobbed by team mates and fans alike at the end of the game.

His only disappointment was that Madrid's tough fixture list made it impossible for him to join the England squad against Denmark.

TREVOR WHYMARK scored the two goals as Vancouver Whitecaps beat Tampa Bay Rowdies 2-1 to win the NASL Soccer Bowl in New Jersey. That meant another winner's medal for much-decorated Alan Ball — but a sad end to the career of Tampa's Rodney Marsh.

DIETER MULLER hit four goals in Köln's 8-0 thrashing of Eintracht Braunschweig on Saturday. But Eintracht Frankfurt are new league leaders. They beat Bayer Leverkusen 3-0 while champions Hamburg lost surprisingly by the same margin to MSV Duisburg.

Laurie Cunningham in action for Real Madrid against Valencia.

New for

IN ORDER to create new interest Finland is trying out a new formula for the championship this year. In less than four months the 12 teams of the first division (Mestaruussarja) have played 22 rounds, which used to be a full season. Now, however, it was only the first phase.

The top eight teams now go into a mini-league to play a single round (seven more matches each) for the Championship. They bring their already collected points with them into the new league. That means, for example, that leaders OPS have three points to spare over their next competitor.

It could therefore well be that the most northern of the first division teams will take the championship for the first time. That would indeed be a sensation. OPS from Oulu have only played in the top division since 1976. So far the side has lost only once in 22 matches (versus Ilves in the 21st round). The team has no big names and only midfielder-cum-forward Seppo Pyykkö is a regular member of the national side. With seven goals he's also the top scorer.

There are in reality only two more serious title-contenders, the two traditionally "big guns" KuPS and HJK — KuPS with five and HJK with a record of eleven titles. The blue-white team from the capital, won the league last season, started rather indifferently this year but has played rather well lately.

The last four from the highest division go into a relegation and promotion league with the top four from the second division. They,

from JAN-HERMEN DE BRUIJN

leader at the moment with 8 goals is Petur Petursson, Feyenoord's 19 year-old striker from Iceland.

In their first six games Ajax won four and drew against Haarlem and Vitesse (away 1-1), but with the exception of the Alkmaar game they had never won impressively. Their performances at home against Go-Ahead Eagles and NAC were rather poor affairs, both being won 2-1 with last minute goals.

AZ '67 played some good football before their defeat at the hands of Ajax, they lost only one match 1-0 away at FC Den Haag (the goal being scored by former international Henk van Leeuwen) and this is a fixture which they have now lost for the past five consecutive seasons — truly a bogey ground for the Alkmaar outfit!

FC Den Haag possess more quality than they had last year. When they bought Ronnie Goodlass, the former Everton player, it added a new dimension to the side.

After a poor start, losing 2-1 at Alkmaar, PSV Einhoven rapidly put things together. They crushed FC Twente Enschede 7-1 at home, and displayed the sort of form which pleased their 28,000 crowd. PSV sold more than 20,000 season tickets at the beginning of this season and almost every match is a sell out.

After six games of the Dutch League programme, the average attendance is 10,574: that is well above last season's average at the same stage (9,788) and the 1977-78 season (9,618).

NAC Breda have serious problems at the bottom of the table, they are joined by PEC/Zwolle and Haarlem. Also surprisingly Sparta Rotterdam have not shown anything near good form up to now. Their big signing, Ruud Geels from Anderlecht, is still injured and has not played a full 90 minutes so far this season.

Ron Goodlass (right) of FC Den Haag.

mula in Finland

too, play seven more matches and the four best teams play in the first division next season.

They don't bring their "old" league-points into the mini-league but get bonus points according to their status in the first phase.

The ninth team of the first division and the winner of the second get four bonus points each. The tenth team of the first and the runner-up of the second get three points, etc., down to the twelfth team of the first division and the fourth-placed in the second, who only get one point each.

It really is a demanding schedule for the Finnish amateurs but the public obviously likes it as can be seen from the fact that the average attendance has gone up from 1,600 in 1978 to 2,315 this year. Not much by Europein standards but look at the percentage-rate!

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
OPS (Oulu)	22	11	10	1	39	15	32
KuPS (Kuopio)	22	12	5	5	38	25	29
HJK (Helsinki)	22	10	7	5	34	24	27
Lahden Reipas (Lahti)	22	10	5	7	33	36	25
KPT (Kuopio)	22	10	4	8	31	23	24
TPS (Turku)	22	9	5	8	36	27	23
Valkeakosken Haka	22	8	4	9	48	42	22
KTP (Kotka)	22	6	4	10	37	44	20
KPV (Kokkola)	22	5	7	10	25	27	17
Ilves (Tampere)	22	6	4	12	31	41	16
Turun Pyrkivä (Turku)	22	5	6	11	17	13	16
MiPK (Mikkeli)	22	4	5	13	33	47	13

The first four from the second division to play in the promotion and relegation round are: MP (Mikkeli), OTP (Oulu), Sepsi-78 (Seinäjoki) and either GBK (Kokkola) or GrIFK (Grankulla).

WORTHINGTON FOR USA?

FRANK WORTHINGTON, back in English football after a summer season on loan to Philadelphia Fury, is likely to return to North America next year on a permanent transfer.

The Bolton striker and the First Division's top scorer last season said: "I loved it out there and I would think I'll finish my career there. Things will have to be sorted out but I want to go back next summer."

As there will be a ban on loans next year Bolton may be forced to sell him when his contract expires.

Worthington's enthusiasm for the States has had to survive a catalogue of problems. He was involved in a tug-of-war for his services and became a Philadelphia player only after the NASL blocked his move to Dallas Tornado.

Then in Philadelphia he had a series of clashes with Yugoslav coach Marko Valok and the Yugoslav playing contingent. "I had a good start but then they traded Alan Ball and I had no one passing to me. The Yugoslavs just wouldn't play with me.

"On top of that the coach didn't get on with me. He tried to plan our whole lives and I wouldn't have that. I trained hard and did my best on the field, but off it I wanted to be an individual.

"He even tried to drag me along to the zoo. He was obligation this, obligation that. I just couldn't accept it. It was crazy.

"He also had this thing about not playing with a ball before a match. I was just juggling with a ball in the locker room when he rushed up and tried to take it off me. I saved him the trouble and threw it at him!"

Results weren't too good, gates were low, the limited football knowledge of journalists frustrated him and his attempts to move to Tulsa were checked by Bolton manager Ian Greaves.

"Things improved, though, and in the end we even managed to get into the play-offs," he said.

"There were problems, certainly, but as far as the football was concerned I went with an open mind and now I very much want to go back to the States."

Player Portrait . . . ENRIQUE CASTRO

QUINI MAKES THEM SMILE

ENRIQUE CASTRO is far from one of the famous names of Spanish football.

Mention it to a fan and he'll shrug his shoulders and ask: Who? But talk about Quini and a sharp light of understanding will enter those eyes.

For *these* men are one and the same — Quini being the *nom de guerre* made to resound by one of the most popular and most dangerous centre forwards produced in the Iberian peninsula for many years.

There is another nickname to reckon with, as well.

To the fans of Real Sporting de Gijon and even to the team-mates who admire him, Quini is The Wizard — a magician whose goal-scoring feats have cast a spell over the little provincial club, twice lifting them out of the second division and, last season, pushing them within an inch of the league title.

Outside Spain he's not so famous. He's played well over 20 internationals, yet the fact that all his career he's been faithful to Gijon and never worn the powerful insignia of Real Madrid or Barcelona means he's lacked projection abroad.

Last season in the UEFA Cup Gijon went out early on to Red Star Belgrade — beaten by an own goal at home in the first leg, for they drew the return in Yugoslavia. This season they began with a tough draw in PSV Eindhoven, which could possibly mean Quini's hopes of a long run in Europe again being stymied.

That being the case, I asked him to tell *World Soccer* readers all about the man so admired in Spain, and so anonymous outside. . . .

"I was born on September 23, 1949 in Oviedo. But most of my life I've lived in Gijon, in our province of Asturias. And I've been happy to stay there.

"Real Madrid and Barcelona were both interested in signing me in the past — I'm too old now! — but always Gijon said No and I haven't complained. Of course I would have earned much more money. But money isn't everything in life. My family and my life are centred in Austurias and I'm settled. I'm at home there that's enough."

Tell us about your goalscoring record?

"Partly it's been luck, partly — though I say it myself — hard work. I've been in the Gijon first team for 10 years and four times I've won the Trofeo Pichichi for the division's top scorer — twice in the second division, twice in the first.

"The first occasion I won the Pichichi was at the end of my second season when I scored 24 goals in 29 games to get us out of the second division for the first time in 12 years. We've only been down one season since, in 1976-77, and then I got 27 goals in 38 games to bring us back up. Again I was the division's best goalscorer."

What about your record in the first division?

"I was top scorer in 1974 with 20 goals in 34 games, and then in 1976 with 21 goals in 34 games. People tell me I've scored 126 goals in 255 first division games — almost exactly one every two games. And in all that time I've been so lucky with injuries. I don't think I've missed 10 games in 10 years."

Are there any games or goals you remember?

"Last season was the most memorable season because we finished second in the league, and no one had expected that. We had one great game against Bilbao. We beat them 4-3 and I scored a hat-trick with the winner in the last minute. I'll remember that for a long time."

Wasn't it also true that in the previous home game you scored a hat-trick against Barcelona?

"Yes that's right. It was one of those seasons when almost everything went right for us. We have a lot of marvellous young players who all developed together in our youth teams. That sort of teamwork is important. If only we could have beaten Madrid — they beat us instead 1-0 on our own ground — we would have won the league. But that defeat took the wind out of our sails. We were second, but four points behind."

But you still ended up with 23 goals, runner-up overall to Barcelona's Hans Krankl. How do you rate him as a centre forward?

"He's good of course. He has to be to score so many goals — but remember, the vast majority of them were in home games. You have to get goals both home and away in Spain to be appreciated properly. I know.

"For example, I'd like to think I could get a place in our team which I think will qualify for the European championship finals in Italy next summer. The trouble is, we have a lot of good centre forwards. there's Ruben Cano at Atletico Madrid, Jesus Satrustegui at Real Sociedad, and Carlos Santillana at Real Madrid.

"He must be the best header of a ball in the world. I'm sure of it. When he goes up he just hangs there."

Talking of international football, you must be looking forward to playing against Portugal in Vigo shortly?

I *hope* to be playing. I'm not certain. But that would be my 25th international, and this is a very important game for any Spanish player. When a player plays his 25th game for our country he is presented with a special jewelled medallion. That's what I'm dreaming of!"

And how long can Quini go on scoring goals for club and country?

"I'm almost 30 but I've a contract which means I'll stay two more years at Gijon. After that? I'd like to stay with the club, if they'll have me. Maybe not as a team coach, but in some other role. Mind you, the way I feel now I could play another ten years!

There are few penalties among your goals. Why?

"I don't have a particular aversion to taking penalties — it's just that I prefer someone else to have the job! Of course, if the trainer tells me to take a penalty, then I'll do my best to score." (Ironically, Quini then missed an 18th-minute penalty in the Teresa Herrera final against Real Madrid).

You're very popular now, but have the fans always been as kind to you?

"Not always. And not all the time now. I think we have the most difficult fans anywhere. They're so hard to please. When you're winning well they're ideal, couldn't be better. They cheer, applaud, do all they can to lift you. But if anything goes wrong, the slightest thing, they turn on you. And that just makes things worse.

"It's the same at Gijon, Madrid and Barcelona. The only exceptions are possibly at Seville. There they do seem to appreciate good football, whoever plays it, some times!"

These are very important years for Spanish football — with a place in the European finals almost assured next summer, then the World Cup. How do you judge the standard of Spanish football?

"Worrying. Young players of quality are in short supply. partly it's the pressure. people expect too much too soon. That works both ways. The fans expect too much and the youngsters themselves as well. Once they've played a game or two in the top division they think they've made it. They think they can sit back and enjoy the fame and fortune.

"They don't realise they've barely begun. They have to work, to concentrate, to make sacrifices in terms of social life and family. Probably there are too many other attractions now. Television has opened their eyes to a new world.

"But then, I don't think that problem is peculiar to Spain. . . ."

El Negrito or Laurie Cunningham as we know him, challenges Honved goalkeeper Gujdar for the ball in a pre-season friendly. Real Madrid's £1 million summer coup scored two goals on his Spanish League debut.

CUNNINGHAM PLANNED HIS OWN FUTURE

LAURIE CUNNINGHAM, why did you want to play abroad?

"Because I needed a break from English soccer. I'd had seven years and everyone's trying to change the style of play, trying to teach a more continental style of play. So I thought the best way to learn was to come out here."

When did Real Madrid become involved?

"I knew some time ago. They came in once and the club said I wasn't for sale and they came in again and the West Bromwich board again said No. Then the club and me hadn't come to agreement on a new contract so I thought right, I'll go through the procedure.

"I wrote a letter to Real Madrid saying I was interested in conversations with tham about the situation and they wrote back saying they too were interested and would like to seem me.

"So they came to England and we had a chat and everything seemed great and they invited me back to Madrid to have a look at the ground and the city and see if I'd like it. From there on, no problems."

Does it all live up to your expectations?

"And more. I knew Real Madrid were well known throughout the world and I've found all the people, from the players up to the president, really nice to me."

Kevin Keegan found a lot of resentment when he arrived in Hamburg, have you had the same problem?

"Not at all. No one here is different from anyone else. If a new face comes along everyone wants to see what he's like. I might get more publicity now for just that reason. They understand. No problem again."

What differences between Englsih and Spanish football have you found?

"Now we've got Vujadin Boskov as coach training is a lot harder than in England. Then I was used to training once a day, here we train twice each day. In our training sessions we play man to man marking all the time too and there are so many skills we work on I never knew existed."

Will this move affect your England chances?

"I've had it written into my contract that I'll be free for any big England game. I don't think my transfer will interfere with my chances that much because the World Cup will be staged out here in three years' time so I'll be acclimatised to everything — and to the style of play, because the Spanish league is the hardest in the world."

English fans think theirs is the hardest . . . ?

"Let's say the English are . . . gentlemen. Out here there are some very tough players!"

Have you had to change your style?

"No, I haven't had to adapt much at all. I've got to play the same way as I did for West Bromwich but be more fluid, cover round more, try to draw more men — and beat them if I can."

How have the fans taken you?

"They've been great. They like my style of play, I suppose. They're a great crowd. Fantastic."

The LESLIE VERNON interview with England manager RON GREENWOOD

SINCE Ron Greenwood took over the England job, I hadn't spoken to him 'officially'. We met from time to time at various functions, matches and Press conferences but I had never visited him at the F.A. The beginning of a new season is an ideal time to talk to the national team manager, so with his always ready co-operation, I went to see him at Lancaster Gate.

IDEALIST IN CHARGE OF OUR NATIONAL SQUAD . . .

I have known Ron since the 1966 World Cup, and I have always found him pleasant, frank, interesting to talk to, and a pleasure to listen to on his favourite subject — football.

During the last few years at West Ham, he became increasingly frustrated, not with the club, but with "the attitudes of the modern player." He felt that footballers were not prepared to put in as much work as their predecessors, and were more interested in making money than improving their play.

There were many exceptions to his overall condemnation, but I had a feeling that Ron Greenwood, however privately, was becoming disenchanted with professional football.

He needed a fresh challenge badly, and the England job presented the ideal opportunity.

The rest is history — two defeats in 19 matches, a new adventurous spirit in the national team's play, optimism instead of caution and suspicion, the prevailing mood in the camp.

No wonder that Ron is a rejuvenated man himself, there is an air of contentment about him, he — the ideal choice for the job — has found his true niche in life.

He admits to a change in his attitude towards the Press as well. "I used to get stroppy with some of the boys on the national papers," he says, "because they were hurting West Ham. I was always jealous of the club's reputation. They could write anything about me, it didn't bother me, but not about the club. Now, I don't care what they say about me, and we are getting along fine."

It was nice to see Ron occupying the chair vacated by Don Revie. Comparisons are odious, but . . .

"Why is this an important season for England?"

"There is only one answer to that — we must qualify for the Finals of the European Championship. It is imperative for the players to be given the opportunity to perform at the highest level. We have several very good players who have never appeared in the final stages of a major tournament.

"Clemence, Keegan, Brooking . . . How can you claim that somebody is world-class if he has never performed on that level? That's why I feel sorry for someone like Liam Brady of Arsenal. His Republic of Ireland team won't provide the necessary platform for him to command a place amongst the world's top players."

Are you satisfied with the England team's progress made during the last two years since you took over?

"You must never be satisfied — you must try to achieve the ultimate. But we have made some progress, and I am particularly pleased with the introduction of 'B' international matches. Now we have continuity, which is vitally important.

"The Youth Team is handled by John Cartwright, the Under-21 squad by Dave Sexton and the 'B' team by Bobby Robson — with the help of other coaches like Venables, Howe, and I have my own assistants, Bill Taylor and Geoff Hurst.

"All of us work to the same pattern, and the task of the other teams is to produce players for the senior side. In the meantime, in all these teams, the players are getting international experience. There is a vast difference between playing in League matches and international football.

"You can drift along periodically in a League match, in an international, you are under scrutiny for 90 minutes. I am particularly pleased with the performances of the U.21 side.

"Last time, they failed in the semi-final of their European Championships, now I hope that they will reach the Final itself. Incidentally, I hope that my eventual successor will be one of the coaches now working with one of the national sides.

"Another pleasing aspect is that we have achieved very good co-operation with the clubs. Nobody is awkward in releasing players, and I try to help them when it is possible. Sometimes, of course, it is a blessing in disguise when a player is not available — one door closes, another one opens! It is not all black, not all gold either — in this job you have to come to terms with the realities of football life."

What are the ingredients of a successful national team?

"You must search for collectivity — pick intelligent, skilful players. Players with good habits, good technique. A positive type of player, good at both facets of the game — defence and attack. They must be all-rounders who fit into our system. I like to use footballers who can play wide — Barnes, Coppell, Rix. Our tactical plans must not be too complex, because we haven't got enough time to practise them with the players. We only have two or three days together.

"The players like our present system of attacking football with a loose 4-2-4 formation. It is important to develop a nucleus of the side, and then perhaps make two or three changes gradually. I have had criticism for sticking to the same players too rigidly. But being

England team manager Ron Greenwood (left) with physio Fred Street.

together regularly is a great asset.

"That way, if a stranger comes in, he adapts quickly and becomes settled. We made too many changes against Wales and Sweden last season. That was a mistake. In future, we shall make only three or four changes. The difficulty is that regular squad members deserve a game now and again — that's why we made all those changes for the Sweden game."

Who do you regard as England's chief rivals in the European Championship?

"Italy must be favourites playing at home. But there won't be a weak team playing in the Finals. The Czechs, for instance, played some delightful stuff at Wembley last season. W. Germany are re-building, Holland always have an attractive team. Portugal must be a good side if they are better than Austria. But whoever emerges from that Group should be pretty useful.

"You say that there is a decline in the standard of European football. I agree there isn't anybody outstanding, but there is a levelling-off and the standard is high. Not as good yet as W. Germany were at their peak, but a team could easily emerge in Italy just as impressive. I hope it is going to be England. I shall watch our opponents later on after we have qualified.

"There is some value in that, although it is sometimes exaggerated. I do not believe in dossiers. Rather in individual chats with the players, talking about their immediate opponents. Eddie Baily, one of my assistants, is very good at that — the players like to talk to him."

Is the European Championship an important target or merely a stepping stone for the World Cup?

"It is very important in itself! Anything can happen in two years. After the European Finals, we shall start thinking about the World Cup. We shall gradually introduce new players groomed in the 'B' side and the U-21 team. By the World Cup qualifying matches, the side will be different, and we know exactly the type of young players we are looking for, players like Viv Anderson, Sansom, Woodcock.

The media, my critics, want everything to change too fast, they like to see players in the national team who have scored a hat-trick in a League match the previous Saturday. It is important to be able to ignore advice. We shall just plod along quietly and develop in the right direction."

What are your views concerning our League football?

"The standard is satisfactory, but there are too many games played by the top players. It is a difficult problem, because nobody can afford the loss of revenue which would follow a reduction in the number of teams in Division One.

"From the national team's point of view, it would be better if the teams played fewer League and Cup matches. Coaches would have more time to spend on technique, ball skills, etc. Some people say that the more you play the better you get. I disagree, top class players can be drained — the demand is too severe on them. The system of League football should be less intense.

"Alan Hardaker said that he would like to see 11 teams promoted and relegated each season. There is something in that, although it would be perhaps too drastic. As for me, I would like to see a First Division of 18 clubs in England, with a four up and four down system.

One could sense the passion as Greenwood talked about the development of young players. The "official" interview over, Ron related a story concerning Gustav Sebes, the old Hungarian maestro, who was in charge of the wonder-team of the fifties.

Apparently, after last year's England v Hungary international at Wembley (4-1) Sebes, who was invited to the match, sought out Greenwood and said to him: "I saw my old Hungary playing on that pitch tonight. But they were wearing the shirts of England!"

"That was the nicest compliment I have ever had," Greenwood told me. It is marvellous to have an idealist at the F.A. in charge of our national team . . .

MENOTTI

He has the talent but not the team-work

ARGENTINE national team coach Cesar Menotti — under whom the country won the World Cup for the first time last year — says he has always been a great defender of the player with technique and individual skill and the easy and sure ball control which the Argentine player possesses, but he does not forget that his players continue to show mistakes in conception of team work.

by ERIC WEIL

"That is why we lose out," he says, "against teams which, although they find it harder to do what comes easily to us (ball control), have a much clearer idea of the concept of team work. This has nothing to do with the physical preparation or the athletic capabilities of European players over South Americans and much less with the need to sacrifice ability for utility, which are frequently the conclusions arrived at here after we are outplayed by a European team. But I continue to favour individual talent even though the less talented player is always more ready to rely on team work. I can improve the team concept in a player and also his technique, but I can't make an untalented player into a talented one even if I had him to work under me for 10 hours a day.

"Really the team concept should already be instilled into the talented player when I pick him for a selection without my having to waste time on this phase," continues Menotti, "but unfortunately this is not so in my country and time continues to be wasted which could be used to better advantage during the limited periods I have the national team players for training. But as long as those responsible for coaching junior teams at the various clubs continue in the belief that it is more important to win championships than teaching the players the complete (team) concept of soccer, The Argentine FA's national coach will have to waste his time teaching players team play."

He gave examples:

When one talks of making triangles or covering or giving the man in possession of the ball the chance to pass it, one rarely goes to the bottom of the question which is the rational occupation of the field — both in defence and attack, two functions which can not be separated by a clear and definite line as, for example Monday from Tuesday. The moment we have the ball in our possession we attack, but if we make a mistake in attack and give the ball away, at that very moment we are already defending. And in one or the other phase, not only the man who has the ball, or loses it, is involved, but the whole team.

"If my players stop at an imaginary line parallel to the goal line, there is only one result — they attack badly and defend badly and they lose the most important thing a team must have — balance. Two players defending in a line can be beaten by only one opponent between them. In the same way, two players in one line, passing the ball, can easily have it intercepted by an opponent and are unable to stop him going into attack. In such cases, numerical superiority, far from becoming tactical superiority, is a clear factor of lack of balance in a team.

When the two players are not in a line, the one placed further back is naturally in a better position to intercept the opponent who takes the ball.)

"All this may seem elementary, but it is one of the most common errors seen in Argentine teams. It is however not the only one, nor the worst.

"When I direct a training match and see a player with his back to the opposing goal receiving the ball and then turn round to take it into attack, I immediately stop play and give a free kick against him — not for a foul, but to drive home the error of his ways.

"If a player tries to stop the ball, then turns round with it to try and beat the defender marking him, he will almost surely lose the ball and jeopardize his team's chances to attack. The correct way would be for the receiver to return it backwards or sideways, with only one touch, preferably not to the same player who passed it to him, and then turn round to move into a more advantageous position — if possible in the opposite direction to which he has just passed the ball. In this way he either gets clear of his marker and is free to receive a pass to continue the attack, or he drags the marker with him, giving the man in possession more room.

"At the same time, the player who tries to play the ball more than once when with his back to the opposing goal, is not only wasting time, but also complicating things for himself and the whole team and anulling their attack possibilities. Centre-forward Leopoldo Luque was one of Argentina's World Cup men who best understood this maneouvre.

"But the receiver has an advantage and a disadvantage. The advantage is that by going a couple of paces towards the ball at the right moment, he covers the ball from the opponent who is marking him and retains possession for his team. The disadvantage is that he does not have a frontal view of his team's attack objective as he is looking at his own side of the field. Therefore he must make the best use of his advantage so as not to have it outweighed by his disadvantage.

"If he goes towards the ball and touches it just once towards a team mate, the opponent at his back suffers one of the greatest physiological problems to befall a player — he gets to the table to find the food has already been eaten. At the same time, the team mate to whom the ball is passed should invariably be one who is looking and advancing towards the opposing goal.

"I am not one to use personal experiences as an example just to show how well one did it, but this one relates to the point. When I played with Juarez (now also a coach) for Rosario Central (my first professional club), we got tired of scoring goals with a simple and direct move. I sent the ball to Juarez who received it with his back to the opposing goal while I continued to rush forward. He gave me a little time to get almost level with him, then lightly touched it sideways into my path and I shot on the run in front of goal. It repeatedly fooled defences . . . and with a similar move Italy scored the winner against us in our only defeat during last year's World Cup finals. On that occasion two Italians, Bettega and Rossi, touching the ball twice, beat three Argentine defenders (not counting the goalkeeper).

"This brings me to square passing, perfected so well by Pele and Coutinho (no relation to the present Brazilian national coach) during Santos' hey-day. But their square passing always ended with one of the two shoooting at goal or passing to someone else after the second pass . . . which is as it should be!

"I am talking about square passing in the attacking zone — within 30 metres of goal. In the rest of the field we can do as many square passes as we like as long as it is to retain possession of the ball. But when we are within striking distance, square passing should be strictly limited . . . and that is where many Argentine teams overdo it.

"Square passing should not exceed two taps each between two players. Why? Because the first square pass may surprise or unbalance the opposition (as it must switch its line of defence), but as we advance, and square pass follows square pass, the open spaces become smaller as the obstacles (opponents) also multiply. If, after two square passes, there is no opening to shoot at goal, it is preferable to look for some other solution — dribbling or passing to a third man who should "surprisingly" run into another open space — these used to be the habitual solutions of the Santos team — or a pass back to reorganise the attack while possession of the ball is maintained.

Leopoldo Luque, one of Argentina's World Cup players who best understood the manoeuvre of playing the ball with one's back to the opposing goal.

"And speaking of Coutinho, I have never seen anybody return passes like he used to — even towards the end of his playing career when he was so fat he could hardly walk. He waited for the pass with his back to goal and, as he received it he stepped forward with his left foot and touched the ball on the inside with his right foot so that it would stop dead (spinning) some metres away — not continuing the path expected by the opposition, but right in Pele's path. Everybody knew what these two players were going to do, but the way they used open spaces and their timing always surprised defences.

"And this brings me to the difference between "published moves" and "surprise moves".

"The man who carries the ball in attack has three options: 1) Not to show what he intends doing — in which case the opposing defender simply waits without moving; 2) Show by his movements which way he is going to pass the ball and pass it that way — in which case the defence moves in that direction; 3) Show that he is going to pass one way and pass it another — which is the right way, because it will get the defence moving the wrong way.

"In the same way, when we defend with the help of the off-side rule — which is a way of playing, instead of fighting to recuperate the ball (thus saving energy and avoiding personal friction) — we are trying to make the rival fall into a trap. But it has to be done in a way not to put up a sign saying: "We are going forward to put you off-side". European teams are good at this, but Argentines still find it hard to apply because they do not do it as a studied team move.

"For example, the Dutch team which caused such an impression in the last two world championships — when they were finalists — rarely played the off-side trap deliberately. The off-sides came as a consequence of the "pressing" they applied on their rivals in the last 30 or 35 metres of their side of the field when all their defenders came out to press the player with the ball and his nearest team mates and possible receivers. In this way, if any rival came too far forward, he was automatically left off-side — not as a deliberate move, but as a by-product of the Dutch method of marking the ball more than the opponent.

"Another fundamental principle of attack is that if the player passing the ball follows its path to run in front of the play, he produces two negative factors for his team— a) He becomes useless for a second pass to continue in the attack, because he is with his back to the ball and the player in possession and b) he hinders his team mate's advance by placing another obstacle in his way apart from those naturally made by opponents.

"On the other hand, if the player passes behind the ball, he is doing two positive things for his team: a) He generally takes his marker with him and is not in the way of the advancing team mate, and b) he produces an open space which enables him to take part in the attack again.

"Those who have had the patience to observe midfielder Osvaldo Ardiles in the national team, both when he has the ball and when he does not have it, will understand the above better. Ardiles is not an athlete, but in every one of his moves he shows three factors which are vital in football — talent, conception and hard work. To watch him play is a lesson of how to make the best use of open spaces and to understand the importane of passing and then running behind the play.

"Those who have not noticed this and are now not in England where they can see him play for Tottenham Hotspur, can notice in other matches how many attacks go to waste and how many balls are lost merely because the player passing forward then runs in front of play instead of passing behind it."

How UEFA reached decision

FOR some time past, UEFA have been publishing their decision to alter the qualification rules governing the number of UEFA Cup places granted to each country.

This will come into force for the UEFA Cup campaign next season, 1980-81, and the English game is one of those most seriously affected, being cut from four clubs entering the competition to only three.

This is the result of UEFA's decision to trace the success ratio of each country in the three international club competitions.

Using the period 1974-75 to 1978-79, UEFA compiled a five-year report and by taking into account all three competitions, awarded two points for a win and one for a draw (with away goals and penalties not counting).

Totalling up the points thus gained by clubs from each country, UEFA then divided the points total by the number of clubs that participated from each country, and in their words . . . produced a co-efficient.

In layman's words, they produced a table showing which countries had, on average, won more games in the three big competitions. They added bonus points all round for each club that reached a quarter final, a semi-final, and a final.

The figures thus reached were as given below:

1.	West Germany	52,617
2.	Holland	39,200
3.	Belgium	38,500
4.	England	38,141
5.	Spain	38,000
6.	USSR	33,650
7.	Yugoslavia	28,250
8.	East Germany	26,650
9.	Italy	25,932
10.	France	24,250
11.	Hungary	22,650
12.	Czechoslovakia	21,800
13.	Poland	18,850
14.	Portugal	17,750
15.	Austria	17,700
16.	Switzerland	17,650
17.	Scotland	16,900
18.	Sweden	15,400
19.	Greece	15,000
20.	Bulgaria	13,200
21.	Rumania	10,800
22.	Turkey	10,000
23.	Denmark	7,750
24.	Republic of Ireland	7,332
25.	Norway	6,250
26.	Finland	5,498
27.	N. Ireland	4,666
28.	Cyprus	3,999
29.	Malta	3,664
30.	Iceland	3,331
31.	Albania	2,000
32.	Luxembourg	1,665

NUMBERS REDUCED

by Eric Batty

OVER THE FIVE YEARS West German clubs have been most successful by a wide margin, and few will argue about that. But the high rankings of Holland and Belgium are accounted for by the cream in their game, teams like Ajax, Feyenoord and PSV Eindhoven for Holland, and RSC Anderlecht and FC Bruges for the Belgians.

This is a critical point, for if no one would argue if these figures were to decide what are known as EC 1 and EC 2 (the European Cup and the Cup Winners Cup) the successes of a country's crack teams are being used to judge the entrants for EC 3 (UEFA Cup)which in my book is the Third Division of the European Championship.

Now comes a very critical decision taken by UEFA for as from next season the three highest placed countries in the table above will be allocated four places each in the UEFA Cup.

Then, the countries rated from fourth place to eighth place get three clubs each; the ninth to the 21st countries get two clubs each and the rest will be limited to only one club per season in the UEFA Cup.

At any level, the teams from Denmark, Eire, N. Ireland, Finland, Cyprus and Malta are always regarded as the minnows, virtually a bye into the second round and not sought-after opponents because with expensive away trips to make the public interest in such teams means that the home leg does not make much money either.

No one wants to play these little clubs from Iceland and Cyprus etc., but of course they must be allocated a place in the interests of fair play and democracy.

It is higher up in the table, and above all in their decision making that I believe UEFA have blundered.

Because over the five seasons taken, the crack teams of Belgium and Holland have done well in EC 1 and EC 2, they are each given four places in the UEFA Cup as from next season, for the decision made is that the top three countries ONLY, get four places.

It is particularly bad luck that England occupy fourth place in this table, behind Holland and Belgium, for as from next season English football loses one place in the UEFA Cup and the bureaucrats are, in my view, making a great blunder.

UEFA have also produced a table co-efficient ratings for last season, 1978-79 and this shows England in second place, though quite a bit behind West Germany who had four clubs reach the semi-finals.

There is no doubt that the highest standards of play are to be found, in no particular order . . . in West Germany, England and Spain. Even if Liverpool and Notts Forest (in England) and Real Madrid and FC Barcelona (in Spain) are already red-hot favourites for the league title, there are many other clubs of a high standard in those countries as there are in West Germany.

THEY ARE THE COUNTRIES THAT SHOULD GET FOUR UEFA CUP PLACES.

This UEFA decision is in line with what happens whenever officials decide important points like seeding, for this is seeding without doubt. In West Germany for example when the FA formed the Bundesliga in 1963, they used past performances as their guideline AND DID NOT GIVE PLACES TO BAYERN MUNCHEN AND BORUSSIA MONCHENGLADBACH.

So much for the West German bureaucrats, for as everyone knows these two clubs earned promotion and dominated the Bundesliga, taking the championship between them for nine years in a row and not allowing any other club to get even a sniff of success.

In the World Cup FIFA has made many such blunders. As far back as 1954, FIFA expected Spain to qualify and seeded their group winners in the final stages in Switzerland. This decision was taken before the qualifying matches had been played and when Turkey eliminated Spain, little Turkey who have never played in a World Cup, before or since, were seeded in a group with Hungary, while unseeded teams were South Korea . . . and West Germany who finally won the Cup.

In the 1974 World Cup FIFA were just as badly informed, seeding England in a group that was eventually won by Poland. And unseeded Poland went on to the final stages and took third place quite deservedly.

It is this seeding policy that has helped keep England out of World Cups for FIFA take as their guideline the teams that qualified in the previous World Cup. Thus when the 'draw' was made for the 1978 competition, Italy were seeded because they took part in 1974, while England were not seeded. During 1977, and even more so in 1978, it was clear to everyone in the world that both England and Italy should have been in Argentina. But FIFA's seeding policy meant that only one of these two countries could get there.

But imagine the chaos if representatives of the 34 member countries in UEFA had to sit down and agree amongst themselves in the naming of say seven or eight countries to be seeded. They could be there for weeks and not agree. But I believe that if, in the matter under discussion, UEFA put it to the FAs in Belgium and Holland that they only rated three teams per country, neither one would complain. They know very well that apart from the elite two or three clubs who dominate the championship, their are also a lot of very poor sides in their top divisions. Take Holland as an example. Last season Ajax were able to carry off both Cup and League, but they will play in the European Cup. With three UEFA Cup places, the entrants this season are Feyenoord, PSV Eindhoven and AZ '67 (Alkmaar) but after that come a lot of very ordinary sides.

An even better guide to the standard of the respective sides is provided by the Dutch fans who should know better than anyone who the good teams are. When the teams above meet there are always close on capacity crowds, but for games in which any other side is involved there is a big drop in attendances, which underlines my point from a different angle.

Without reference to the point that English football is probably the strongest in Europe (with West Germany) at club level, and that the European Cup has most recently been won by Liverpool and Nottm Forest to prove it, I believe that UEFA would have got a much better guide to the strength of the respective country's clubs at the lesser level if they had taken the UEFA Cup as their guide over the years.

SPANISH PLANNING

Ladislao Kubala talks to Keir Radnedge

LADISLAO KUBALA, you have two big jobs ahead, the European championship then hosts' role in the 1982 World Cup — what can you tell us of your preparations?

"Let's start with the European championship, for which I feel fairly sure we'll get through to the finals next summer in Italy. We have men of experience such as Asensi, and Del Bosque. The trouble is that not everyone always agrees with my faith in them.

"Either 30 or 31 is considered much too old here for a top player. It's different in other countries, in England I think. But that is our mentality. . . .

"At least I'm giving myself plenty of opportunity to experiment before the European championship. Over the season we have virtually one international every month, starting with Portugal in September. We want to give our players experience of playing abroad for Spain and also an opportunity to bring them together more often.

"Only this way can we build a national team with the spirit of anything approaching a club side."

Then come the World Cup preparations?

"Yes. During the next months I hope I'll have been able to analyse our young players. You know we took an under-23 team on a tour to South and Central America recently. That was part of the build-up.

"Another vital part will come after the European championships. Then it is my aim to get my players together for *two days each week*. That's an incredible idea as far as Spanish football is concerned. If we are to do well in the World Cup — and our fans will demand that — we have to work at it. We have to let the players mix regularly. It could be fabulous."

But there will be problems?

"Of course. For one thing we have a problem of distances in Spain. Wherever we hold our training sessions is a long way for someone. If we choose Madrid then players must travel from all the corners of Spain. If we choose Barcelona or Valencia then the distances for players from Bilbao or San Sebastian become almost prohibitive, bearing in mind that they must also work in their clubs.

"Another problem is that though the clubs have a vested interest in the success of the national team and the prestige that can bring, they are basically selfish organisations. The success that matters most to them is their own. I have to fight that.

"Then there is also the difficulty surrounding our players who are serving their national service. We have never had any control on where they may be sent. A young Bilbao player may be sent to serve in Ceuta, North Africa. So he's a footballer in the first division? Bad luck.

"But because the World Cup will be a matter of national prestige, our FEF president, Senor Pablo Porta, is hoping to reach agreement with the military authorities that footballers in service will be stationed locally to their clubs. All in the national interest!"

Where is your priority — European championship or World Cup?

"Next year, the European finals, that's my priority. I've been manager for 10 years now and after the last World Cup I agreed to stay two more years. Now I have one left. Will I stay? Will they want me to stay? I don't know. But I'm not going to worry about it. If they want me for the World Cup it will be an honour and if they don't then I reckon I'll have earned a rest, after so long!"

You need one point from two games to reach Italy — and one of those games is against Cyprus. You look most of the way there. Who else do you expect to see in Italy next June?

"Czechoslovakia, England, Italy of course, and West Germany. The other groups are still wide open."

How do you rate England today?

"It was a pity England weren't in Argentina for the World Cup. There are a lot of fine strong players available. They get plenty of international experience too with friendlies, the European competitions and the British championship. I think England are now the No. 1 in Europe."

Asensi.

Is this because young players come through quicker in England than in many other European countries?

"That's part of it, certainly — though I don't accept that England produces younger players more consistently than other countries. At least not in Western Europe. In Central Europe things are different, I admit. There players are brought through far too late. And by the time they've made the grade, at least in Yugoslavia and now Poland too, they're off to earn big money in the West and are lost to their country."

Let's talk about domestic Spanish football for a change. How do you see the new season?

"Very interesting — particularly for Barcelona with their new players such as Simonsen, Landaburu and Canito. They're all good players, and they all strengthen Barcelona in different departments. Real Madrid? Cunningham is a spectacular player. He moves well, he's difficult to dispossess. And then there's no one faster than Juanito when he decides to move.

"Gijon? They've had some good luck in having the right people to look after their young players. And seven or eight of those young players all, by good luck, were good enough to come through into the first team. That's had a vital effect on their success. Now they've sold Moran and had some injuries I fear they won't be the same team as before."

Do you have a special feeling for Barcelona still?

"Of course, I played there for 10 years. But I can assure you I don't let that interfere with the way I go about choosing the national team!"

A lot of people will never forget that 1961 Champions' Cup Final when you lost 3-2 to Benfica. Do you remember it too?

"Vividly. I remember all the bad luck we had. Benfica weren't well known then, but they had a good side. Yet we should have won. Twice we hit the woodwork — poor Sandor Kocsis, Evaristo. It was appalling."

Finally, you played international football for your native Hungary, for Czechoslovakia, then for Spain. Do you feel Spanish, or are you even now Hungarian at heart?

"Spanish. No doubt. I was very young when I came here, about 22 I think. So I didn't have all that many years in Hungary, and I can barely remember anything about playing in Czechoslovakia. After that I had a year in a transit camp in Italy, but it was Spain who welcomed me, who gave me my chance.

"That's why I'm proud to call myself Spanish."

Juanito

NEW LOOK — BUT NO SURPRISES

ARGENTINA'S virtually new national team, including at first only captain and defender Passarella from last year's World Cup squad and later also midfielders Gallego and Valencia, finnished bottom of qualifying group 2 in the South American Championship and this came as no surprise — but they did a lot better than expected. In fact, it was so close that had they scored one more goal for a win over Brazil instead of a 2-2 draw in the last match, they would have finished top to qualify for the semi-finals in place of Brazil.

South American international scene by Eric Weil

That opening "shock" win for Bolivia over Argentina (2-1) in high lying La Paz (mentioned in last month's *World Soccer*) looked less of a shock when a week later Brazil — fielding a full strength team for the tournament (basically their World Cup side plus some promising newcomers) — lost by the same score in La Paz. Brazil arrived at La Paz just before the match — one theory to overcome altitude problems before they start — but they also encountered problems and after ending the first half all square (1-1). Bolivia could have beaten a tired Brazilian side more easily if they had risked more. Both first half goals came from penalties. Roberto put Brazil ahead after 29 minutes and Aragones equalised with a rather lucky spot kick six minutes later when Brazilian defender Oscar's "hands's" had looked very casual.

Bolivia, a much improved side, found Brazil's defence weak in the air and Aragones scored the second half winner with a header after 18 minutes. However, three Brazilian stars — Zico, Toninho, Nelinho — could not line up as they felt sick because of the altitude before the match even started and Heleno Nuñez, president of the Brazilian Sports Confederation (CBD), said that Brazil would not play in La Paz again as it was not fair to expose the players' health at this altitude (3500m above sea level). Brazil are scheduled to meet Bolivia in the World Cup preliminary games in 1981 and Nuñez said he will ask FIFA to have the game played elsewhere.

Brazil had the benefit of an early goal from Zico (2m.) at Rio against Argentina who were strengthened by the inclusion of their young midfield star Maradona. Later Argentina settled down to have more of the ball for a time and Coscia deservedly equalised after 29 minutes. But Brazil, without playing well, took a grip on the game in the second half when Tita scored the winner after nine minutes and goalkeeper Vidalle and defender Passarella were Argentina's hardest workers.

Brazil's Zenón (5) joins in the fight for the ball between Argentina's Maradona and Zico (17) in the South American Championship group 2 game in Rio which Brazil won 2-1.

Easy win

Argentina also got an early goal from Passarella (one min.) on their way to an easy 3-0 win over Bolivia in Buenos Aires. Going into attack at a fast pace right from the start in an effort to score as many as possible in this group which seemed to be heading for a goal decider, Gaspari added a second after 15 minutes and although they did not quite keep it up in the second half when Maradona added just one more half-way through, the win looked good when a week later Brazil could only beat Bolivia 2-0 in Rio.

Tita put Brazil ahead just after half-time and Zico only scored the second after two minutes over-time added on for stoppages. This seemed ironic because Brazil completely dominated the goal-less first half, but seemed to lose control in the second half when they scored both goals.

Thus the final game was reached — Argentina v Brazil at the River Plate stadium in Buenos Aires — with Argentina needing to win by just one goal to cause a triple tie on points and win the group on goal average. They failed to get it with Brazil showing their experience advantage and better ball play, meaning that Argentina had still not managed to beat Brazil in seven meetings (two draws five defeats) since Menotti took over as national coach in 1974. In this latest meeting however, Menotti was not actually in charge of the team, nor was Maradona playing. Both were on thieir way to the Junior World Cup finals in Japan by then.

Strongest teams

Claudio Coutinho, who was going to get almost 10,000 dollars a month as exclusive Brazilian national team coach as from December — when his contract with Rio League champions Flamengo ends — said that in this final match Brazil were at last able to field their strongest team as earlier injuries had prevented this. Brazil's new star striker, Socrates, put Brazil ahead twice, while defender Passarella (outstanding in attack) in the first half and Roberto Diaz, in the second, equalised. Two World Cup players were sent off for fighting in the first half — Zico (B) and Gallego (A).

Menotti meanwhile picked virtually the same team which had been doing duty in this

Chilean goalkeeper Mario Osben (1) grabs the ball off the head of a Colombian forward in the South American Championship group 1 game in Bogotá which Colombia won 1-0.

championship for Argentina's second tour abroad this year in September with matches against West Germany, Yugoslavia and in the United States.

Group One play so far has been even closer with Venezuela holding both Colombia and Chile to draws at home while Colombia then beat Chile 1-0 in Bogotá to take the lead at the halfway stage.

Venezuela used spoiling tactics against Colombia to stop the better team from taking control of the poor match which ended 0-0 in front of 40,000 fans at the provincial town of San Cristobal where soccer has made great strides in popularity during the last few years.

Newcomers

Chile, with several newcomers, but without stalwart defender Figueroa and experienced forward Caszelly (both injured), also failed to overcome Venezuela in San Cristobal in a match in which neither side showed any attacking ideas. The first goal in the group came only 23 minutes from the end when Carvajal put the home team ahead. Nine minutes from the end winger Veliz equalised for Chile . And Colombia showed that none of the three teams in the group seemed to have any competent goalscorers when they beat Chile 1-0 in the third match.

Peru, who as South American champions, have a bye into the semi-finals of the competition, picked four players currently playing abroad — La Rosa, Velasquez and Cueto (with Colombian clubs) and Labarthe (in Chile) for their national team squad of 25, but not World Cup stars Teofilo Cubillas (with the Ft Lauderdale Strikers in the US) and Sotil (playing in Colombia).

The exclusion of midfielder Cubillas, an ever present for at least 10 years, caused quite a rumpus in Lima, but the player himself, who was there on holiday at the time, said coach Jose Chiarella's decision was quite right, because the time had come to give others a chance. Cubillas also said he intended retiring in a year's time, although the Strikers wanted to sign him for another three years.

The squad also includes two players of the junior team which played in the South American Junior Championship in Montevideo in January — Malasquez and Vargas — who are at present not allowed to travel abroad as they are implicated in current proceedings relating to the falsification of birth certificates. (At least six birth certificates of junior players were falsified at the time of the junior championship to make the players appear to be under the age limit for that tournament.)

The squad has most players from the Universitario and Alianza Lima clubs — six each, includes a lot of World Cup players and newcomers which, coach Chiarella says, gives it the right average age to work with the 1982 World Cup in view.

COLOMBIA'S hotel corporation president, Nicolas del Castillo, says the country does not have enough hotels to stage the 1986 World Cup. He says there are more seats on planes going out of Bogotá daily than hotel beds in that city and urges government credits to build hotels. Meanwhile another group of economists has presented its findings to the government which says it will take its final decision on the matter within a month. The group of professionals from the Universidad Nacional says the tournament would cost 350 million dollars to stage.

The Brazilian team which played Argentina.

Derick Allsop reporting

AS the wheels of another European Cup campaign begin to turn, some of the most distinguished names in the competition's history attempt to break the English dominance.

Liverpool, twice winners, and Nottingham Forest, the current champions, meet the challenge from the Continent looking as strong — indeed stronger — than ever.

So can Real Madrid, the early masters and now with Laurie Cunningham in their ranks, find a little of that old magic and take the giant trophy back across the Channel? Or will Milan re-emerge as a genuine power? Or will the title go to Ajax again?

On the face of it the side from Amsterdam go into battle as likely as anyone to trouble the English clubs. They won the Dutch Cup as well as the League last season and have a reinforced squad who embarked upon the new season with rapidly improving form.

And yet Ajax captain Ruud Krol sums up his side's prospects in the Cup with four frank words: "We have no chance."

Kurt Welzl (AZ67) in a duel with Ruud Krol (right) of Ajax.

LOW KEY KROL IN AJAX BID

That assertion may surprise some of England's top managers. The Liverpool boss himself, Bob Paisley, Dave Sexton and Malcolm Allison were among an admiring gallery as Ajax gave a splendid, fluent display in a warm-up match at Bolton.

Programme

Ajax were involved in a hectic programme before the start of a new League season. The fixture chaos caused by last winter's bad weather and a South American tour left the team with little time for a summer break and fresh preparations.

So they took on several friendly games to try to achieve match fitness and co-ordination in the quickest possible time. The made little impression at West Bromwich and lost 1-0. But at Bolton the pieces began to drop into place and they won 3-1 with seemingly plenty in hand.

That, in fact, was the half-time score and Krol, who had pulled the strings from the back despite an injury, sat out the second half. His lucrative contract demands an appearance in such games and in 45 minutes he had given full value.

His view from on and off the field, however, was the same, that this was still a side well short of the calibre of European champions.

"It's true," he said, "that we looked good at Bolton. The side started to settle down and looked better prepared for the new season. But the European Cup? No.

"Perhaps we will get to the second or third round, but no further. Malmo got to the final but it was one of those things. I'm sure we won't. We just aren't that good a team.

"I would think Liverpool and Nottingham will be the teams to beat, although it is difficult to compare us with them. I see them on TV but you can't see all the game on TV. I have seen enough only to be sure we won't win the Cup."

Henning Jensen, the £200,000 signing from Real Madrid, scored twice in his League debut, but Krol questions the wisdom of the sale of Ray Clarke, the club's top scorer last season, to make way for him.

Settle

"We will miss Clarke," he said. "Anyone who scores 20-30 goals in a League season is a very valuable player and would be missed by any team in Europe.

"It is too early yet to say how Jensen will fit into the team. He needs time to settle. What I do say is that Clarke proved his worth with his goalscoring record. It was outstanding."

Clarke was sacrificed to satisfy a club and traditions demanding style and subtlety as much as results. But then Krol was retained at great expense for the same reason.

Money

He admits money was a major factor behind his decision to stay with Ajax. "Real Madrid wanted me and Arsenal were also interested. There were lots of things that had to be considered and certainly money was one of them.

"So now I am staying with Ajax until 1982. After that I will have to see how I am; how fit I am and how well I am playing. Perhaps I will go to America, perhaps France or another country in Europe.

"At the moment I will concentrate on playing for Ajax. I have a good contract and I am quite satisfied with my game. I feel I have plenty of football left in me yet.

"But as for the European Cup I have no wild dreams about that. It would be nice to do well in the competition, but I'm afraid we won't."

SERVETTE TRIUMPH

by ARTHUR ROTMIL

SWISS FOOTBALL now has a truly outstanding team: The FC Servette of Geneva won every trophy on the domestic front last season — the League championship, the SFV-Cup, the League Cup and the Alpine Cup for good measure.

This was the most complete triumph ever achieved by any club and this Servette outfit hails from the French-speaking part of the country. It thus ended the long domination by the German-Swiss clubs, who since 1965 (When Lausanne won the title), held virtually a monopoly of the national championship. Servette, last time champions in 1962, had to wait patiently for this success, but it was no more than they deserved.

In the final play-off pool the Servettiens claimed another record: Played 10 matches and won them all! Hungarian-born team manager Peter Pazmandy, since 1976 in office (and since a naturalised Swiss subject), is of course the toast of Geneva; his approach, methods and tactical preparation were instrumental in his team's total triumph. His side played altogether 55 competitive matches (32 in the League, six in the European Cup Winners Cup, six in the SFV-Cup, six in the League Cup and five in the Alpine-Cup). They were beaten only seven times — a remarkable achievement.

Servette's international midfielder Umberto Barberis played 60 competitive matches (including those for the national team), thus confounding those who consistently point out that Continental Leagues being smaller there is less football played over there. Barberis was incidentally voted "Footballer of the Year", ahead of Claudio Sulser of Grasshoppers (top scorer in last season's European Champions Cup), René Botteron (FC Zurich) and Jure Jerkovic (FC Zurich).

Servette's team did not find it easy in the Cup competitions. They won the League Cup against Basel only on penalties, after the score a.e.t. was 2-2. In the SFV-Cup Servette were held by Young-Boys to a 1-1 draw and needed a replay before winning through 3-2. This was a marvellous match which thrilled the 30,000 crowd at the Wankdorf stadium in Bern. A pity that not more games of such a high quality are served up to the Swiss public who have recently been cold shouldering some league matches.

Small wonder that ice hockey has now replaced soccer as the number one spectator sport there. The average gate at an ice hockey First Division game last season was 6,300, as compared to the 5,650 at football. It is true that the public have become more discriminate in viewing football, since they are fed a huge ration of West German Bundesliga football of high quality.

Servette lost their international striker "Joko" Pfister who joined Grasshoppers. The Zurich club have changed managers as the German Helmuth Johannsen returned home to manage the VfL Bochum. The "Hoppers" are now led by another German, Jürgen Sundermann who quit VfB Stuttgart because he and especially his family want to become Swiss citizens and would have lost their residential qualification, having been two years away from this country.

Johannsen had some very interesting and poingnant things to say about Swiss footballers on his departure. He underlined the difference in mentality between the German professionals and the Swiss semi-amateurs, who are mainly concerned with their job and their future and regard football just as a side-line, a temporary occupation. In such an atmosphere it is — says Johannsen: "Very difficult to persuade the players to dedicate themselves totally to the sport and to the exclusion of everything else."

Swiss clubs had, as usual, virtually no summer break. Eight teams started at the beginning of July (the season only ended on June 24!), in two competitions: Grasshoppers, St. Gallan, FC Zurich and Chenois played in the International Football Cup, while Lausanne, Young Boys, Neuchatel and champions Servette took part in the Alpine Cup.

For the new season the title holders engaged Cucinotta (ex Chiasso), Matthey (Vevey) and Sarrasin (Sion), but they parted with an entire forward line — Peterhans, Elia, Weber and Pfister! Young Boys exchanged Küttel for Schönenberger (ex Basel). FC Zurich signed up a complete striking trio: Elsener (returned after a year with Eintracht Frankfurt), Peterhans (ex Servette) and Seiler (Lausanne). But Scheiwiler (to St. Gallen) and Risi (Lucerne) have left the club.

Grasshoppers acquired the internationals, striker Pfister (ex Servette) and In-Albon (Sion) and only discharged four reserve players. Basel, whose manager the German-born Helmut Benthaus has now been with the club fourteen years (!) have obtained Küttel (ex Young Boys) and Hasler (Xamax), plus four other players, but they parted with six men, including Schönenberger, Siegenthaler and Fischli.

The crowds in the first rounds of the championship were disappointing, like the weather, but the top clubs have yet to meet and so optimism is still ripe. But the increase from twelve to fourteen clubs in the First Division may prove a false move.

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RIVER PLATE WIN AGAIN!

from ERIC WEIL

RIVER PLATE left no doubts when they wrapped up their 15th Argentine First Division title (previous wins 75/77) with a 5-1 second leg final win over Velez Sarsfield and fittingly it was midfielder Norberto Alonso, again their outstanding player throughout the championship, who put up another fine performance.

Alonso, who was also River Plate's outstanding player in 1975, when they broke an 18-year lean spell to win both the first division and national titles — so much so that the fans called him Mr. Champion — also finished up as the team's top scorer with eight goals, most of them vital.

The young Velez Sarsfield team, which reached the final with a 10-game unbeaten run, virtually lost the title in the first leg at home when, while trying to go all out to attack — which is not their style — two defensive mistakes cost them the goals in their 2-0 defeat.

Not being an attacking team, it never seemed likely that they would score twice in the away leg without letting in River and their all-out attack at the start showed up their short-comings in this respect. In the first leg, and in the early stages of the second, River Plate also showed that in spite of coach Labruna often repeating that "the only way we play is attack", they are not so attack-minded or lax in defence as they were and are still made out to be.

As Velez attacked, they again left loopholes and Alonso found one to put River on their way to an easy win with a 13-minute goal. There is no doubt that River Plate have enough skilful players (including World Cup men Fillol, Passarella, Alonso and Luque — winger Ortiz is ill) to beat rivals by their individual skill . . . and here they scored over Velez also, because the latter's "pressing" loses effect against rivals who can outplay you individually.

River Plate defender and national team captain Passarella safe as ever in defence for the new champions. Here he is jumping between two Independiente forwards to head the ball away during the Argentine First Division semi-final.

And River Plate's controversial and often run-down Angel Labrunna, must also have had something to do with it. Of the club's 15 titles, he helped to win nine as a player and four as a coach . . . which makes him part of the history of the club . . . and he has done it again this year in a club where some of the many factions continually want to throw him out, where the players must also be unsettled by constant transfer talk and contract terms haggling which goes on for most of the season and where a number of them have the dual responsibility and extra work of also playing in the national team.

River Plate has now won the title in three uneven years in succession which is not as curious as it looks — and it also means that if they had set their minds to it, they could have achieved the all-time record of winning the title five times in a row. But after winning it one year to qualify for the following year's Libertadores Cup, River Plate always concentrate all their resources on that trophy which they have never won and which has become something of an obsession with them.

Will that happen again and will they turn their back on the first division, fielding weak teams, next year? Club president Rafael Aragon Cabrera says no . . . but we shall see.

This brought to an end the shortest first division championship ever with 20 clubs, divided in two sections, playing only 18 matches before the top two of each section qualified for the semi-finals. It produced some very good games, but did not appear to raise the over-all standard, but most important, it brought increased gates as it lacked the monotony of previous far longer tournaments — even though, for the first time, traditional rivals River Plate and Boca Juniors did not meet.

Other promising features were that three of the four semi-finalists played attacking soccer and the exciting attacking play of Rosario Central (though they appeared to be "over the hill" when they reached the semi-finals), while the revelation was undoubtedly modest Argentinos Juniors and their star midfielder, Diego Maradona — league top scorer for the second year running, this time jointly with Fortunato (Estudiantes de La Plata) on 14.

Argentinos Juniors and Velez Sarsfield finished joint second in one group and had to play off for a semi-final place, but by that time Maradona was under a six-match suspension and Velez on a hot unbeaten streak . . . and they also had their own star in Uruguayan forward Gimenez. Their 4-0 victory was so clear-cut that it was unlikely Maradona would have made any difference.

The River Plate-Independiente semi-final produced some outstanding play and plenty of goals with River winning both legs 4-3 (home) and 2-1 (away) and there were some outstanding individual displays . . . also from Independiente midfielder Bochini which brought him his recall to the national team. A full strength Independiente might have come closer and they paid the penalty — with injuries — for courageously going all out

to win the league title and the Libertadores Cup at the same time, but they fell between two stools.

The other semi-final saw Velez Sarsfield effectively stop the deteriorating Rosario Central "goal machine" with hard-pressing defence and little soccer. They won 1-0 at Rosario and speculatively drew 0-0 at home. In these matches away goals counted double in case of a tie on points, but fortunately this not very popular rule did not have to be applied.

At the same time, the bottom two teams of each section played a round-robin relegation play-off with only the winner, Platense, staying up. These matches, naturally enough, produced real dog-fights with only one player standing out — Platense winger Juarez who scored all the vital goals. He foolishly got himself sent off to miss the last match, but still finished as third-highest championship scorer with 11 goals.

Thus Gimnasia y Esgrima de La Plata, Atlanta (who failed to win a game all season) and Chacarita Juniors were relegated — the latter protesting that they had to play the last two matches without their best player, junior international winger Escudero, who was by then in Japan for the Junior World Cup finals. They had a point, specially as Maradona had been given permission to travel later so he could play in a friendly for his club.

The national championship, with 28 clubs in four groups — including 12 provincial champions — was due to start two weeks later.

49 TITLE WINNERS

(Since the start of professional soccer in 1931)

15 — River Plate; 11 — Boca Juniors; 7 — Independendiente; 6 — Racing Club; 5 — San Lorenzo; 1 — Estudiantes de La Plata, Chacarita Juniors, Huracan, Newell's Old Boys, Quilmes.

IN CHILE: TOP TEAM BANKRUPT

Chile's most popular club, Colo Colo of Santiago, are precariously placed at the top of the first division at the half-way stage, but are in serious danger of going bankrupt with debts of $3 million . . . and when Colo Colo shudders, the whole of Chilean soccer usually shudders with them. (The club had already been "closed" for a time in 1976 by the Chilean Mortgage Bank due to financial difficulties.)

Alzamendi (7) scores Independiente's only goal in their Argentine First Division semi-final defeat (2-1) against River Plate with World Cup goalkeeper Fillol (right) airborne and unable to reach the ball.

Most of Colo Colo's troubles are blamed on their paying players more than they can afford, while they are also still paying off the mortgage bank. They also owe the FA $500,000 and Union Española, another first division club, $140,000 for a transfer fee. If their future gate receipts are embargoed, they will not have enough money to pay their players who, in turn, will refuse to turn out — a vicious circle.

At the other end of the table, joint bottom provincial club Nublense of Chillan, who won promotion only two years ago, say they will sell all their professional players and field amateurs to get out of their financial troubles which are blamed on lack of support.

IN COLOMBIA: AMERICA'S JINX

America de Cali, comfortable group A leaders of the Closing Championship — with only one point lost after six matches — hope to finally break the jinx which has stopped them from winning a title after 75-year-old Benjamin Urrea was publicly exorcised at their stadium's field in front of 60,000 fans.

The story goes that in 1948, when professional soccer started up in Colombia and America, who had been an amateur team, joined the pro ranks, Urea, who played for them at the time, was dropped and placed a curse on the club. Various previous attempts to get rid of the curse have failed and after 30 years of pro soccer popular America are still without a title. This year's "Opening Championship" was jointly topped by America and Deportivo Cali, but after two drawn play-offs Cali won the title on better goal difference.

Eleven of Colombia's 14 professional clubs are now under foreign coaches — nine Argentines, one Paraguayan and one Chilean — while the national team is under Yugoslav Blagoje Vidinic. Fifty-six foreign players were also registered for the "Closing Championship" by the 14 clubs (43 of them Argentines) — a slight increase on the season's "Opening Championship" — and Tolima, who at the start of the season decided not to sign any foreigners and finished bottom, changed their policy and signed three Argentines and a Paraguayan. But after six matches they are again bottom without a win. (Another 22 foreign players have also taken out Colombian nationality.)

Nacional has signed two of Peru's World Cup players, Cesar Cueto and Guillermo La Rosa (who have been putting up good performances) who join former team mates Hugo Sotil and Jose Velasquez who play for Medellin, while Argentine forward Milano (from Quilmes) has joined Millionarios among the leading recent transfers.

ELSEWHERE . . .

URUGUAY'S league championship is in recess while the junior and senior national teams play in the Junior World Cup finals and the South American Championship respectively, but that did not stop first division leaders Nacional from hitting the headlines. Seventeen of their players were declared "in rebellion" by the club after they had refused to travel to Paraguay for a friendly match because they could not get a $100 appearance money. The club was offering $100 for a win and $50 for a draw against Paraguay's national junior team.

PARAGUAY'S Cerro Porteño, the country's most popular club who are a point from the bottom of the first division, have signed Argentine coach Nestor Rossi (the former River Plate and international centre-half) "to save them" after the repatriating of several Paraguayan players.

Comisso scores River Plate's second goal in the championship final (second leg) 5-1 rout of Velez Sarsfield.

THE UNREPORTED AIR DISASTER

THE TRAGIC inevitability about the deaths of the 17 players of Russian first division side Pakhtakor Tashkent is that this will not be soccer's last air disaster.

Indeed the continuing increase in international competition, the demand for quick trips in and out, and the growing use of planes for domestic fixtures are all factors to make soccer shudder.

The Tashkent players lost their lives when the Tupolev 134 in which they were flying for a league match in Minsk, crashed with the deaths of 154 people.

It was the sixth soccer flying accident in 30 years.

The first was on May 4, 1949, when the 18-strong squad of Torino, about to be crowned Italian champions for a record-equalling fifth consecutive season, crashed into the side of Superga hill just outside Turin. Ironically the team were on their way home from playing a testimonial game, against Benfica in Lisbon.

On February 6, 1958, the Elizabethan carrying Manchester United's 'Busby Babes' home from a Champions' Cup quarter final second leg in Belgrade against Red Star, crashed on take-off after a refuelling stop at Munich's Riem airport. Eight players died, several suffered injuries which prevented them playing again and, for years after, the plane's commanding offier, captain James Thain, fought a battle to clear his name. He died himself not so long ago, brought down by the strain of the years and the battle.

On July 16, 1960, eight players died again when an aircraft carrying Denmark's B team crashed on landing at Kastrup; on April 3, 1961, once more eight players were killed, this time members of the Green Cross first division club in Chile.

Finally, on September 26, 1969, the 16-strong first team squad of Bolivian champions The Strongest died after their plane disappeared on a domestic flight between Santa Cruz and La Paz.

The latest tragedy went almost unrecorded in Russia. Several days after the incident I found a small paragraph tucked away in my copy of *Sovietsky Sport* which reported that the match between Dynamo Minsk and Tashkent had been postponed. No reason was given.

In virtually any other country — even other Iron Curtain nations — the deaths would have been front-page headline news. The Russians, presumably, though it wouldn't be good for morale to publish at length, information about one of their air crashes — though they have conceded that Pakhtakor will not be relegated in the next three years, wherever they may finish.

That's their business.

Ours must be concern for the future.

CHINA'S recent playing visit to England for the first time was something of a diplomatic success, following up last year's trip beyond the Bamboo Curtain by West Bromwich Albion.

The Chinese can only benefit by the increase in competition with European nations. But there are elements of our game which have sneaked in back home and which clearly aren't welcome.

The Chinese in action at Chelsea with Yang Yumin being tackled by Gary Locke.

WORLD SOCCER DIARY

Three fans were arrested after hurling stones at the visiting team's bu chanting obscenities after a game in Tian-Jin, capital of the northern pro of Shandong.

The rowdies were all sent off to two days' detention.

* * *

A LOT of resentment had built up about organisation even before the st the World Youth Cup in Japan — mainly concerning food and tra facilities.

A number of the more sophisticated teams among the 16 finalists dismayed to find that while FIFA and organising officials were in the hotels, their young players had to make do with virtual youth hostels.

Cesar Menotti, who had left his senior team in the hands of aide Fed Sacchi while he took the juniors to the Land of the Rising Sun, was amon first and most powerful complainants.

"If something isn't sorted out in the next 24 hours I shall take the home," he warned in between cigarettes. "We have come here to football, we have brought our best young players like Maradona and Ba and we expect to be treated accordingly.

"I've seen the menus here and the food just isn't good enough — the t who've been her longer are complaining already about it — and as for tra pitches . . . where are they? No-one seems to want to know."

In the event sharp action was taken to try to polish up the tarnished ima a tournament which had yet to begin. But such problems are bound to when you take a sport to a country which remains far from football-fanati

* * *

SWEDEN are maintaing a wise tradition in naming Lars 'Laban' Arnesso take over as national team boss when 57-year-old Georg Ericsson retires a end of the year.

For 43-year-old Arnesson, who guided Oesters Vaxjo to the league last year, has been Ericsson's No 2 for more than six years.

Arnesson was there with Sweden at the World Cup in West German 1974 — where I first met him — and again in Argentina a year ago. N apart from running Vaxjo, he's also Sweden's under-21 manager.

It's not the first time Sweden have promoted No. 2. Ericsson had hi been deputy to Orvar Bergmark before his appointment in 1971.

West Germany have the greatest tradition for promoting from the ra Otto Nerz was succeeded by Sepp Herberger in 1936, and his assis Helmut Schoen took over in 1964. Now Schoen's own deput, Jupp Derwa the man at the helm.

Come to think of it, England appear to be preparing the same grou

* * *

"ENGLISH clubs wouldn't recognise public relations if they fell over it i street."

That was the caustic comment from one English journalist who had b following the fortunes of the Football League's adventurers in the Spa pre-season tournament jamboree.

English clubs have been travelling abroad in European competition now more than 20 years without, apparently, making much effort to establi rapport with the local fans.

In Europe there is a passion for collecting little club insignia badges. M continental clubs issue sackloads to officials and directors to keep the l kids happy wherever the team may travel.

"These badges cost 50p a time in our club shop, we can't afford to hundreds of them away," said one English director after battling his through a horde of pleading Spanish fans.

It strikes me a badge-maker could carve himself a golden niche if he c corner the market in small cheap badges. Having a pocketful to hand aro can do wonders for a club's image — and in West Bromwich's case in Co it might have tempered local disappointment at their form in the two def by Gijon and Honved.

Sweden's new manager Lars Arnesson (right) with the man he follows, Georg Ericsson.

WHILE on the subject of the Spanish tournaments, a word of praise for Barcelona's new young goalkeeper, Vincente Amigo — their match-winner in the Ciudad de Palma Final against the Brazilians of Vasco da Gama.

The match finished as a 0-0 draw and when it came to the penalty decider Amigo not only stopped three of the Brazilian spot-kicks, but it also fell to him to take the penalty which won the tournament for CFB!

* * *

ASTONISHING mix-up in Poland over the suspension of young Wisla Krakow striker Andrzej Iwan for his part in a brawl in a bar.

Iwan was banned midway through last season for six months by his club, but the federation thought this too lenient and ordered the ban increased to a year.

At the end of July, however, the federation decided enough was enough. Iwan's ban was cut short and he returned to league action dramatically, scoring the winner in his first game back.

The senior Sports Council however then decided that something fishy was going on and ordered an inquiry into Iwan's amnesty. The 19-year-old who was the youngest player in Argentina for the 1978 World Cup has now been ordered out of football again pending the latest investigation.

* * *

TWO sides to one problem.

On the face of it Enrique Omar Sivori and Don Revie would appear to have little in common. Yet in fact both have been consistently inconsistent on the needs of their respective national teams.

Both Sivori, as manager of Argentina in 1973, and Revie, of England between 1974-77, did their utmost to get players together for lengthy squad training sessions.

However when Revie had previously been in club management, it was a fact that his Leeds players were often forced by minor injury to miss such sessions and even occasional internationals.

Now Sivori has clearly crossed the fence with his latest criticisms of Cesar Menotti for working his Racing Buenos Aires' players so hard that Sivori claimed they were too tired to be played in the league the next weekend.

You just can't win!

WE TOLD YOU

Five years ago — That Real Madrid 11-goal top scorer Oscar Mas had been sold back to River Plate after only one season . . . that Panathinaikos had sacked Ferenc Puskas . . . that France had managed to hang on to national coach Stefan Kovas despite the Rumanian FA's moves to recall him.

Ten years ago — that Peru had beaten Argentina in the World Cup qualifiers and "could turn out to be something of a surprise" . . . Eusebio missed the start of the season because of a pay wrangle with Benfica . . . Gerry Hitchen had returned to England from Cagliari . . . ex-Spain captain and centre back Fernando Olivella retired after a testimonial game which Barcelona lost 2-1 against Brazil's Palmeiras.

15 years ago — that Independiente were new South American club champions . . . that Spurs had signed Alan Mullery for £70,000 as replacement for Danny Blanchflower . . . that Finland's Juhani Peltonen had joined Hamburg . . . that Rumanian army team CCA Bucharest had been re-named Steaua (Star . . . that David Layne, Peter Swan and Tony Kay had been suspended from playing pending the outcome of the bribery allegation court case.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? *Vladimir Beara.* Now 51, Yugoslavia's No 1 goalkeeper throughout the 1950s despite making his debut in 1950 in a 7-2 defeat by Austria. Won two championships with Hajduk and four with Red Star, while continuing as a ballet tutor! Won 60 caps before going to Alemania Aachen to end his career in West Germany in 1959. Later coached Aachen, Rijeka and Hajduk. *Today* is first team coach with 1st FC Vienna.

BOOK SHELF — *A Book of Soccer* by Brian Glanville (Oxford Univ. Press, 12 dollars 95). Another Glanville football history but no less readable for all that. Written for the American soccer market and the references to the US scene bring new life — and new context — to the well-rehearsed tales of heroes, World Cups and European Cups past and present.

Names in the news

NEW Polish star ZBIGNIEW BONIEK has been suspended for three games — but he couldn't have played anyway because of a tonsils operation . . . SRECKO RADISIC has left Real Madrid to take over as physical jerks man at Sporting Lisbon . . . JIMMY HAGAN is coaching Vitoria Setubal . . . former top referee ARTURO ITHURRALDE of Argentina says it's time their players copied the 'fair play spirit' in British football . . . KONSTANTIN BESKOV, who took Russia to runners-up spot in the 1964 Nations' Cup, is back in place of Nikita Simonian . . . OLEG BLOKHIN celebrated topping 200 league games with a hat-trick . . . ALLAN SIMONSEN has refused to share rooms with HANS KRANKL on Barcelona away trips because he reckons he'll pick up the language quicker rooming with one of the Spaniards . . . FERNANDO MORENA, high-scoring Penarol centre-forward, has joined Rayo Vallecano . . . DAN CORNELIS, a 17-year-old with IFK Gothenburg, is the new starlet of Swedish football . . . SEPP MAIER'S car crash injuries broke his record run of 442 consecutive league games . . . coach JEF VLIERS has been sacked by relegated Nurnberg after only four games . . . RADOJKO AVRAMOVIC has left Rijeka to keep goal for English second division club, Notts County . . . OSVALDO PIAZZA has quit Saint-Etienne to return to Argentina with Velez Sarsfield . . . wandering Hungarian striker ATTILA LADINSKY has left Courtrai for Valenciennes in France . . . ATANASIO VILLALBA, one of Olimpia's Libertadores Cup stars, could be coming to Europe, with Anderlecht . . . ROB RENSENBRINK missed the start of the season because of a knee operation . . . Bulgaria forward GEORGI ZDRAVKOV has been suspended for life . . . ELIAS FIGUEROA, three times South American Footballer of the Year and Chile's top central defender, has retired after a training accident which almost cost him his life . . . JOACHIM STREICH of Magdeburg is East Germany's new Footballer of the Year . . . JOAO ALVES suffered a serious leg fracture in only his third league match after joining Paris Saint-Germain from Benfica . . . Peruvian forward JUAN JOSE ORE is set to join Panathinaikos . . . ASA HARTFORD, Scotland World Cup midfielder, has left Nottingham Forest after only three games — the ex-Manchester City man joined Everton for £500,000 . . . following the transfer of LASZLO BALINT to Brugge, Hungary are to permit players of 30 with 25 caps to play their last seasons abroad . . . VICTOR MARCHETTI, one-time River Plate midfielder now with Nacional Montevideo, is set to recross the Rio Plata to join Boca Juniors . . . HUBERT BAUMGARTNER, the FK Austria goalkeeper, has joined Huelva in Spain . . . ROB RENSENBRINK missed the start of the Belgian season because of a knee operation . . . RADOSLAV ZDRAVKOV, Bulgarian forward, has been suspended for life for trying to fix a transfer from Lokomotiv Sofia to CSKA . . . ELIAS FIGUEROA, Chile's greatest ever defender, has been forced into retirement after a serious accident in training . . . 'BOBBY' POLLAK is back in the Czechoslovak national squad thanks to his fine form since his transfer to Sparta Prague . . . LARS ARNESSON is to take over from Georg Ericsson as Sweden team boss from January . . . JURGEN GRABOWSKI is to retire at the season's end.

West Bromwich Albion F.C. Back row from left: Trewick, Batson, Godden, Robertson, Barnes, T. Brown. Front row from left: Owen, Statham, Robson, Wile, A. Brown.

SUAREZ IS HOME

WHILE West Bromwich trained across the full width of the Coruna pitch, there was another coaching session in progress (writes KEIR RADNEDGE).

Down by one of the corner flags, some of the younger players of Real Deportivo de La Coruna, the local second division team, were being put through their paces by a man far more famous in his day than any of the English professionals present.

Luis Suarez is home again.

Born in Coruna, on May 3, 1925, he was 18 when Barcelona beat Real Madrid in the race to sign a boy who was clearly the most gifted inside forward since Luis Regueiro before the Spanish war.

Within 20 years Suarez was an international, going on to play in the 1962 World Cup Finals and mastermind from midfield the Nations' Cup win over Russia two years later.

But already Suarez had run across the man who was to be the greatest influence on his career — Helenio Herrera. He left for Inter Milan in 1960 but came back for Suarez a year later, after Barcelona's Champions' Cup final defeat by Benfica.

The £210,000 fee remains a record for a foreigner paid by an Italian club.

The elusive Champions' Cup medal was at last added to Suarez's collection of prizes in 1964 and 1965, and there might have been a third but he missed the 1967 final against Celtic because of injury. Without him Inter lacked the guidance necessary to have withstood the Scottish battering.

A spell with Sampdoria Genoa and then it was no longer Luis Suarez the player, but the coach — ending up in charge back at Inter, but without the success of his playing days.

Now he's home in Coruna, but with a pedigree to make his views of interest to anyone concerned with not only Spanish but world football.

How has football changed since your playing days?

"To put it bluntly, football's gone downhill. It's hard to compare different eras, but there's no doubt now that today's football places too much emphasis on speed and strength. The game now is too fast — there's not the same interest in making skill count.

"Teams go out with the intention of not losing. That is the priority, home as well as away. In my day we went out to win every game. With Barcelona in the Champions' Cup we beat Wolves 4-0 in Spain. Nowadays any team that did that would go away and pack its defence.

"We didn't. Wolves threw all they had at us in that second leg but we still won 5-2 — in front of their own fans. When did you last see such a tie?"

You've played and coached in Italy and Spain, what difference is there between football in both countries?

"Not so much as people might believe, certainly. That's because we share the same Latin mentality. The players have good basic skills but in both countries there is too big an emphasis on the result — meaning the draw. They say Italian football is very defensive, of course, but you know it's not that much different from Spanish football. It's just that in Italy perhaps the organisation of defences is stereotyped in a more obvious manner with *catenaccio*."

Internazionale have achieved little since your departure — how do you rate their new team?

"Inter have a good team again. They've been busy in the transfer market over the past two years. Yet they've maintained stability by keeping fatih in Bersellini, the coach. Their problem is that the team is too young.

"Facchetti and Mazzola were the last members of the 'old guard' to go and you can't replace them overnight. So consistency will be a problem. That's why foreign players are so important, because they have confidence from being established stars."

So you are in favour of Italy raising the borders and Spain keeping theirs open?

"Certainly — within reason. Obviously no country wants the ridiculous situation we had here in Spain until recently with lots of second class Argentines, Paraguayans and Uruguayans all claiming a place because they were supposed to have Spanish grandmothers.

"But a couple of foreigners per team has to be good. That way they don't block the way to the truly promising local players, but by their presence lift the whole team's standard to a different plane. Even allowing just one foreigner per club, as the Italians will do, can make a huge difference."

HAMMARBY THE ENTERTAINERS

SINCE the start of the 14-team first division in 1973 the league has suffered from lack of excitement and thrill due to one team running away with everything and making sure of the title well in advance. Now, however, it looks as if we're in for an intense and even fight for the championship. As I write (with 16 matches played) only one point separates the top six teams.

by Frank Sjoman

Halmstad BK are leading Norrköping, Göteborg (Gothenburg), Hammarby (Stockholm), Elfsborg (Boras) and Malmö FF with one point and all of them are in with a chance.

Halmstad are coached by an Englishman, Roy Hodgson, and play somewhat similar to Malmö FF with pressure on the ballholder and a rigid offside trap. But luckily for the audiences they have more talented forwards and a lot more flair than Malmö. Sigge Johansson is a skilful winger and Mats Jingblad a promising striker.

Norrköping may have lost their chance when topscorer Pär-Olof Olsson recently became a pro with Waterschei in Belgium but under new coach Gunnar Nordahl they have done very well so far. It was only last autumn that they almost went down to Div II going without a win for 13 matches on the trot.

Striker

Göteborg had to let Ralf Edström go to Standard Liège. He didn't seem to have the appetite for the "amateurism" of Sweden though he certainly isn't up to his former standards. Anyway in 17-year-old Dan Corneliusson Göteborg has the next Swedish star — a big strong striker who scored eight times in seven outings with the Youth national side last season.

Elfsborg is a workmanlike side, well organised and hard to beat while Malmö is still the most boring team of those in with a chance. 16 goals in 16 matches (five 1-0 wins) speaks for itself. The defence is good as usual but going forward . . .

Thank God for Hammarby! That is the cry of every football fan in Sweden right now. The green and white team from the south of Stockholm have always been known for their brand of nice and pretty football but also for their ability to win 6-0 one week and lose 2-5 the next.

They have played in the First Division for 21 years but have never finished better than fifth (1970). The fans, however, have always stayed true in the knowledge that Hammarby will always try to play good football (shades of West Ham in quite a few ways).

Matches

The season started badly for Hammarby, who were bottom of the table after six rounds. But then it happened. Hammarby are unbeaten for ten straight matches, have picked up 18 points from them and scored 29 goals. It's a young team that suddenly has blossomed. The ability has been there all along and now it has been coupled to confidence.

To see Hammarby play is to see brilliant technique, bags of flair, speed, optimism and a devil-may-care attitude. You're just as likely to see a full-back dribble through for a goal as to see the centre-forward heading off his own goalline. Hammarby have scored 34 goals so far and compare that to Malmö's 16 (both for 21 points) and you'll understand why almost everyone wants Hammarby to win the championship. That could mean a swing towards inventive football in Sweden and break the copying of Malmö's destructive but successful tactics.

For the coming internationals versus Norway no less than six Hammarby players were called up. Libero Ahlund, full-back Rönnberg and striker Werner for the full side and the entire midfield Ramberg-Andersson-Dennerby for the Under 21 team.

Surprises

The cup played off its fifth round last week and there were a few surprises among the sixteen matches. Reigning league champions Öster went out to Third Division Lunds BK (0-2). Halmstad lost to Örebro (relegated last season) 1-3 and the shock of the round. Norrköping lost 2-3 to fourth division Oddevold and the result was perfectly all right.

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Malmo celebrate the goal that put them in last year's European Cup final.

BUNDESLIGA GATES DROP AS COSTS GO STILL HIGHER

by ARTHUR ROTMIL

WEST GERMAN football looked forward to the new season with some degree of apprehension. Despite a successful last term — the national team remained unbeaten and five clubs reached the semi-finals of the various European cup competitions — there was an appreciable drop in the *Bundesliga* attendances.

The total of 7.4 million, though the third best in the history of the National League, was nonetheless 600,000 below last year's record-breaking figure. The average gate was 24,234 and VfB Stuttgart again topped the list with 41,296 per match — last year they registered 54,000 on average!

There are, of course, several contributory factors to the slump in interest. Hooliganism, it appears, is beginning to raise its ugly head even in the orderly Federal Republic. The style of play has remained static, for tactically there has been nothing new in the past few years and small wonder, since the West German coaches (the best trained in the world) have all been through the same rigorous high school!

Furthermore, the German fans have become spoiled by some of the most modern stadias in Europe, but the recent spiralling of admission charges and the high cost of travel, have made even the prosperous German citizens blink. It is true, of course, that wages in the Federal Republic are higher than in Britain, for example, and it is unfair to convert Marks into Pounds and produce an accurate figure relating to earning power. But here are some examples of what it costs to watch football in West Germany:

First it should be noted that half the 18 clubs in the *First Bundesliga* have raised the admission prices for this season; the rest retained the old charges, except FC Cologne, who for the first time in ten years failed to qualify for a European tournament — last year Cologne had won the "double"! Because of the international failure the prices of the best season tickets at the Müngersdorfer-stadion have been lowered from £120 to £108.

The champions Hamburger SV on the other hand, increased their prices sharply. Until now, the top "season" cost £175 in the Volksparkstadion — now it is £250! Only the terrace tickets remained priced as before. The cheapest ground to stand on the terracing is Schalke's Gelsenkirchen arena, the Parkstadion — £1.75, while the best seat costs £6.25.

Cheaper are only the stadia of the newly-promoted Bayer Uerdingen and Bayer Leverkusen, who ask £5.50 for top seats and MSV Duisburg £6. Schalke charge for a season ticket £100, which is considered "reasonable" there. Bayern Munich are still very expensive, but they did not raise their admission prices. But those who want to sit in a private box, with the VIPs and enjoy a snack, drink, etc., have to pay, all included, £300 a season!

One has to bear in mind that there is an enormous gulf between the richer and the poorer clubs in West Germany. Although average attendances in the *First Bundesliga* are not far behind those in England's First Division, some of the German clubs need larger gates in order to meet the required budget.

Five clubs, Stuttgart, Hamburger SV, 1.FC Nürnberg (relegated), Schalke and Bayern, all recorded average attendances of between 32,000 and 41,000 and they are financially O.K. At the other end of the scale Hertha Berlin Eintracht Brunswich, Fortuna

Fortuna Dusseldorf, who will be competing in the 1979/80 European Cup Winners Cup. Top row from left: Tippenhauer, Zimmermann, Mazany, Marheim, Dusend, Pajonk, Wirtz, Bommer, and masseur Jens Petersen.
Centre from left: Exner, Thomas Allofs, Weiki, Schniedermeier, Klaus Allofs, Wenzel, coach Heidelberger. Front row from left: Baltes, Koehnen, Schmitz, Dreher, Daniel, Zewe, Brei, Seel.

VFB Stuttgart, who will compete in the 1979/80 UEFA Cup. Back row from left: Karl-Heinz Foerster, Martin, Ruehle, Kelsch, Hadewicz, Beck, Volkert. Centre from left: Coach Steimle, masseur Carneri, Hattenberger, Klotz, Birner, Jank, Bernd Foerster, Mueller, assistant coach Mayer and coach Buchmann. Front row from left: Holcer, Elmer, Roleder, Greiner, Ohlicher, Dieterle.

Düsseldorf, Darmstadt and Duisburg had to be content with crowds of 16,000 down to 12,000 per match.

There are further examples: VfB Stuttgart despite losing 216,000 fans as compared with last year, have still clocked-up a net profit of £250,000! Hamburger SV report a new record in sales of season tickets — 6,017 were sold, bringing in £427,000; Bayern Munich drew to a friendly match with local rivals '1860' a mammoth crowd of 70,000 wanting to see this 'prestige' derby and both clubs cashed in handsomely from this, annual venture.

But others in the *Bundesliga* are existing on a shoe-string budget. The fear of remaining financially insolvent at the end of the season and having their professional licence taken away by the DFB, hangs heavily over the lesser lights among the professional clubs in West German football.

It is just as tricky to manipulate the financial arrangements within a *Bundesliga* club, as it is for the team manager to guide his side through this highly competitive League. The buying and selling of players, which is left to the technical director (called manager in Germany), assumes vital dimension when the whole future of the club is at stake. Subsequently most clubs went in cautiously into the transfer market in the summer break. The most important moves:

1860 Munich: Newcomers — Flohe (ex-Cologne); Kapellmann (Bayern); Senzen (Dynamo Zagreb). *Schalke:* Newcomers — Boljat (Hajduk Split); Dzoni (Dynamo Zagreb); Nigbur (Hertha Berlin). Departed: Gross (to USA); Erwin Kremers (invalided out of football); Lütkebohmert (Bocholt). *Borussia Dortmund:* Departed — Held (Münster); Lippens- (USA). *Eintracht Brunswick:* Newcomers — Worm (Duisburg). Departed: Nickel (Borussia Mönchengladbach). *Hertha Berlin:* Newcomers — Kleff (Borussia Mönchengladbach). Departed: Nigbur (Schalke); Weiner (Bayern); Beer (Saudi-Arabia); Gerssdorf (USA). *Fortuna Düsseldorf:* Newcomers — Wenzel (Eintracht Frankfurt). Departed: Lund (USA). Woyke (invalided out of football). *Hamburger SV:* Newcomers: Jakobs (Duisburg). Departed: Ripp (Lüneberg). *Werder Bremen:* Newcomers — Watson (Manchester City). Departed: Roentved (back to Denmark). *Eintracht Frankfurt:* Newcomers — Bum Kun Cha (Darmstadt, then South Korea, back to Germany). Departed: Elsener (FC Zurich), Kraus (Bayern Munich), Wenzel (Fortuna Düsseldorf).

Borussia Mönchengladbach: Newcomers — Nickel (Eintracht Brunswick). Departed: Kleff (Hertha Berlin), Köppel (Viersen), Simonsen (Barcelona), Vogts (retired from active football). *Bayern Munich:* Newcomers — Dremmler (Eintracht Brunswick), Hoeness (VfB Stuttgart), Kraus (Eintracht Frankfurt), Weiner (Hertha Berlin). Departed: Kapellmann (1860 Munich), Rausch (USA), Jol (back to Holland). *VfB Stuttgart:* Departed: Dieter Hoeness (Bayern Munich). *1.FC Köln (Cologne):* Departed: Flohe (1860 Munich), Glowacz (Bayer Leverkusen). *MSV Duisburg:* Departed: Jakobs (Hamburger SV), Worm (Eintracht Brunswick).

Bayern Munich lost temporarily their famous international goalkeeper Sepp Maier, who was involved in a dreadful car crash in which he suffered multiple fractures of ribs, collar-bone and arm. But Maier was not drunk, as a breathalyser test established later. Nonetheless, he will have to appear in court on charges arising out of the accident in which two other cars with women drivers were involved and injured.

Bayern's number one goalkeeper is now the former reserve Walter Junghans, but the club engaged as a standby by the 32-year-old Manfred Müller, who was previously with 1.FC Nürnberg but left after disagreements for the ESV Ingolstadt. Müller cost Bayern a paltry £25,000.

Bayern were freely tipped as championship contenders after they beat Nottingham Forest (called in England the "European champions") by 5-0, before a crowd of 20,000. In a one-sided game in which Forest were totally outclassed, the scorers were Burns (o.g.), Niedermayer, Breitner (pen), Hoeness and Dürnberger.

Only goalkeeper Shilton saved the European cup-holders from a truly catastrophic defeat.

English football and footballers have been very much in the news in Germany lately, for the first player to be sent off in the *Bundesliga* this season was England stopper Dave Watson. In his second game for Werder Bremen, Watson clashed with 1860 Munich defender Hermann Bitz, who got up angrily and ran at the Englishman who, "anticipating" a butt, pushed both his hands into Bitz' face, throwing him to the ground.

According to reliable reporters and also a TV slow-motion replay, Bitz made the most of the unfortunate incident, but the referee had no choice but to show the red card to Watson.

Reports in the British Press of an "automatic eight-week suspension" were quite inaccurate (there are no automatic suspensions in German football) and also untrue was the story of "angry Bremen officials will fine Watson heavily." On the contrary, all Bremen directors and team manager Wolfgang Weber deplored the "play-acting" of Bitz and were full of sympathy for Watson.

Bremen do have a scale of fines for players booked or dismissed, but each case is examined separately on its merit. There are photographs of Watson's hands right in Bitz' face and of course there was nothing vicious about it. Therefore it wasn't necessary for Watson to make such lame excuses which imply that hitting opponents is tolerated by English referees.

Incidentally, a new rule came into operation in the *Bundesliga* this season. At last the bookings will be totalled up — four cautions and a player will be banned from the next match. A further three yellow cards mean another one-match suspension.

Champions Hamburger SV, who began the season without the injured Kevin Keegan, but stormed to the top (after three games) have problems with their players demanding higher bonuses. Up till now, HSV paid each man £250 for an away point and £185 for a home point. When the team drew 40,000 spectators at home, then the bonus for a home point was also increased to £250. But now the 'champions' want even more. . . .

MYSTERIES OF THE SCOTTISH TEAM

by Alex Gordon

THE works of Agatha Christie surely cannot rival the mysteries of the Scottish international team. It's not so much a case of whodunnit but who-didn't-do-it!

I'm talking about the startling fade that seems to inflict itself upon the national side just when things appear to be going well. It happened last month against Peru in the Challenge Match at Hampden. It happened at Wembley against England and it has happened on countless other occasions.

It's as unexpected as it is unwanted and any form collapse or loss of concentration in the European Championship tie against Austria at Hampden on October 17 will undoubtedly kill off Scotland's slender hopes of reaching the Finals in Rome next year.

The Scots were marvellous in the first-half against Peru, but eventually had to settle for a draw although the 1-1 result was unimportant. In those opening 45 minutes Scotland dazzled on a grey, dull, wet and windy evening. They lit up the night with superb interpassing, wonderful one-twos, quick-thinking and an overall understanding that is not always evident in Scots teams.

It could have been 4-0 at Hampden for Jock Stein's side and, really, the Peruvians, an exceptionally talented side with some extremely clever players, could hardly have grumbled if that had been the case.

Only six minutes had gone when Scotland took the lead with a breathtaking goal that involved five players. Asa Hartford, the scorer, actually started the move with a long ball, fired from just inside his own half. When the ball was worked out to the right and sent over again, there was the Everton midfielder arriving with an immaculate sense of timing to clip his shot wide of goalkeeper Eusebio Acasuzo.

Kenny Dalglish, a thorough professional, was brilliant. It was good to hear his name being chanted from the Hampden slopes for a change. Only a few months beforehand he had been subjected to ridiculous treatment from so-called Scottish fans in the match against Argentina. The jeers turned to cheers, however, against the Peruvians and how he deserved them.

Davie Cooper, the enterprising Rangers attacker, made his debut against the dusky South Americans and the experience will do him the world of good. However, there is room for vast improvement in his play and he must realise today that chances inside the six yard box in international football are precious and should not be squandered with reckless abandonment.

Alas, Cooper missed two golden opportunities against Peru and he must still be wondering how he failed to score.

The first chance was made after magnificent work from the unselfish Dalglish. He waltzed into the penalty area, drew the 'keeper and slipped a pass into Cooper's path. All it needed was a simple shove over the line, but Cooper elected to blast it and, to the utter astonishment of the Scottish fans and the relief of the Peruvians, he sent the ball hurtling over the crossbar.

The second opportunity came after a hectic goalmouth scramble. Somehow the ball fell at his feet and again it looked easier to score than miss. Cooper, however, did just that with a weak shot wide of the post.

To be fair to Cooper he almost scored a memorable goal shortly after these misses. Having passed up simple chances, Cooper wanted to show the fans he could score spectacular efforts.

He worked his way inside left-back Jorge Olaechea — the man whom I thought was the weak link in the Peruvian side — and hit a shot of awesome power with his left foot. It was a difficult effort for the 'keeper to take as it dipped wickedly just in front of him, but Acasuzo kept his concentration and dived full length on the sodden turf to push the ball wide of the post. A great effort and a great save.

During all this Scottish pressure, with Dalglish and Hartford working like demons, Alan Rough was a mere spectator on the night he picked up his 28th cap and equalled the previous record held by former Dundee and Spurs goalkeeper Bill Brown.

Enigma

Scotland threw away another glorious goal-scoring opportunity when John Wark, a bit of an enigma in a Scottish jersey, missed a penalty-kick just before the interval. Peru, in fact, must be wondering if Scottish players know how to take a penalty, remembering that Don Masson failed so miserably to convert one during the World Cup match in Cordoba last year.

Masson hit that effort too close to the 'keeper and Ramon Quiroga — what a pity he didn't play at Hampden — pushed it away. This time Wark hit the ball to the other corner, low to the 'keeper's left, and again the Scots were denied when Acasuzo dived to fumble the ball away.

Peru, then, went in at half-time wondering if Scotland could keep up such a frantic pace and such a high level of skills in the second-half. They needn't have worried . . . the Scots staged their invisible act yet again in the last half-hour.

Dalglish, working well throughout the game, almost scored a second shortly after the interval with a deceptive, curling shot aimed at the 'keeper's top left hand corner. Acasuzo distinguished himself again with a flying mid-air clutch as the ball was going over his shoulder.

But the Scottish pattern was beginning to fade, the rhythm was lost and even the introduction of substitutes Roy Aitken, of Celtic, and Leeds' Arthur Graham for Wark and Cooper late in the game couldn't restore the balance.

Near the end German Leguia got the equaliser after a goalmouth scramble. Like I said earlier, the result didn't mean a thing, really, but Jock Stein must be a little concerned about the second-half performance from his side after looking so good, so controlled and so composed in the first-half.

Dalglish and Hartford were both immense. They were always available for passes from their team-mates, they made space with unselfish running, they combined in the flowing moves and they held the team together for lengthy spells.

St. Mirren's polished defender Iain Munro had another good evening in a Scottish jersey and it looks as though he has made the left-back position his own. Sandy Jardine, however, didn't play to form and he was rarely seen pushing forward on Peru's exposed left flank.

John Robertson produced the odd run or two, but his finishing wasn't of a high standard. He threw over a couple of crosses to the far post when there were no back post men anywhere in sight. Obviously playing to instructions, the Nottingham Forest men stayed wide on the left and made only a few sorties inside the full-back.

Burns and McQueen played well enough, but Scotland still lack a *player* in this position, someone who can use the ball well, suddenly changing defence into attack. Alan Hansen had a nightmare against John Toshack and Wales in the Home International match this year, but, providing he is clear of injury, the Liverpool player should get another opportunity to play in the back four.

The lack of goals and the amount of missed chances are problems, of course, but they can be solved by either Joe Jordan or Andy Gray . . . or both! Jordan would have led the attack against the Peruvians had he not been injured playing for Manchester United the previous Saturday against Aston Villa.

Gray, British soccer's first £1½ million man after his amazing transfer from Villa to Wolves, will have to forget the turmoil off the park and get on with proving he is international class with his new club.

Scotland will need some strength up front against the rugged Austrians. Power in the air will be required, too, with the impressive Bruno Pezzey — scorer of two goals against England this year in Vienna — and Barcelona's Hans Krankl around.

So, there will probably be changes against Austria. It will not be a night for experiments. This one is for real and Scotland will have to put their talents on parade for the entire 90 minutes. If they pull 'the invisible man' act they will be punished severely by the competitive Austrians.

Arthur Graham will be a good player to throw in against Austria. Playing on the right, he could create a couple of problems and, with his combative nature, he could come back and defend against the polished skills of Kurt Jara, the player with the explosive left foot shot.

The Austrian match is the most crucial Jock Stein has faced since taking over the international team eight games ago. It really is a make-or-break match. Defeat will mean three meaningless European Championship fixtures against Poland Belgium (twice) having to be completed.

Keir Radnedge talks to Kees Rijvers

Outlook not so good!

KEES RIJVERS, coach of PSV Eindhoven for the past eight years, was in Coruna to spy on Gijon, opponents in the first round of the UEFA Cup.

Naturally he was a popular target for reporters after the final between Madrid and Gijon but he doesn't speak Spanish.

He had played in France in the 1950s for Saint-Etienne, so I finished up translating this Dutchman's French into Spanish for the local radio stations and newspapers!

PSV were champions a year ago in Holland and are now in the UEFA Cup you won also one year ago. But what is the state of your team?

"Not so good. We're having to rebuild and it could take at least another two years. We have some new young players — we've signed Michel Valke from Sparta and Adrie Koster from Roda this summer — but our preparations for the new season have been upset by injuries.

"In the first five weeks we also had no fewer than two or three of our best players injured."

You signed World Cup defender Piet Wildschut from Twente midway through last season, how has he settled in?

"Not so well. He doesn't really know what he wants. He'd like to play a free role all the time — but who wouldn't? Someone's got to do the work. Rene Van der Kerkhof wasn't so good last season either. There was a lot of transfer talk about him this summer — Köln or Real Madrid — but he's stayed and I hope he'll go better now he's settled."

Four wins

So much for PSV — what about Dutch football in general?

"On the way back down, I'm afraid. We had four wins in the Champions' Cup with Feyenoord and Ajax, and twice our national team reached the World Cup Final. Partly it was a matter of luck — one generation produced an outstanding crop of footballers.

"Now the trouble is that a lot of our teams don't know how to play properly. We have far too many fouls in our football.

"Feyenoord have a good team, with some very promising young players. But sometimes they are too hard for their own good — if only they'd realise it. The English tackle strongly, but fairly. Dutch players don't know how to get that mixture.

"That's why Arnold Muhren and Frans Thijssen have done much better in England than they did in Holland. They can take strong play — when the spirit is right."

Many English fans were surprised Ajax sold Ray Clarke after he'd scored so many goals and helped them win the double. Why did they do that?

"From the day Clarke went to Ajax the directors didn't like him. And I cannot understand why. As far as I was concerned, whenever we had to play Ajax, he was by far the most important forward they had.

"All the time he wasn't only concerned in scoring himself, but in moving around to create a lot of space for Arnesen and Schoenmaker to go through themselves. Isn't that what modern football is all about — pulling holes in the defence to make room for others to score?

"Yet for some reason Ajax prefer Henning Jensen, a man — unlike Clarke — who likes to play his football *on* the ball rather than *off* it."

Big splash

Your old club, Saint-Etienne, have made a big splash in the transfer market by signing Johnny Rep and Michel Platini — have you watched their new team in action?

"No I haven't yet. Yes, their signings have been spectacular but I doubt whether they'll work, even though they've had one or two good wins already. What's wrong? Well, I'm not sure whether Johnny Rep has the consistency you need in a centre forward. I'm sure Platini would much rather be playing alongside Lacombe. In fact he's said so."

Finally, as a new season starts do you have any reflections on the last?

"Yes, to learn the lesson Glasgow Rangers taught us in the second round of the Champions' Cup. We got a good result in Scotland and were too sure of ourselves. To lose the tie and the second leg after being 2-1 up *at home* . . . that's just not on!"

Arnold Muhren — settling down to English football.

PLAYERS — QUESTION SKILL NOT FITNESS

by Brian Glanville

ONCE again we have been told that footballers are unfit, footballers are lazy, footballers are put to shame by the likes of basketball players, let alone international athletes. The last time I recall something of the sort was five years or so ago in Italy, when the usual group of high powered, highly motivated medical researchers came up with all sorts of tables to prove to their own satisfaction that an Italian soccer player wasn't remotely as fit as a basketball player, and so on.

The latest of these reports emanated recently from the Department of Sport and Recreation Studies at Liverpool Polytechnic, compiled by Dr Thomas Reilly and Dr Vaughan Thomas: who was moved to challenge Malcolm Allison to a fitness contest with a sidestake of £1,000 a head. Dr Thomas, who seems an exuberant fellow, maintained he was quite as fit as any pro footballer, which moved Bob Paisley (though researches had been carried out at Everton rather than at Anfield Road) to say that were Dr Thomas to train with Liverpool, he would be crucified. (I knew Bill Shankly was given to driving his men hard, but this is ridiculous!)

According to Drs Reilly and Thomas, British training methods are badly out of date. Dr Reilly stated that — as if we didn't know — the footballer's hardest training period comes in the six weeks before the season starts. Thereafter, during the season itself, the "daily use of energy was irregular and paradoxical."

What inevitably caught the fancy of the public prints, however, was the statement that the footballers studied spent an average of 19½ hours a day lying or sitting down, with nearly 10½ of those hours in bed.

That there should be sharp and shocked reactions was inevitable. Martin Dobson, that elegant Everton half-back, just about to return to Burnley (his £300,000 transfer fee had built their sparsely occupied grandstand) was greatly scornful. The former athlete Lancaster, who trains Manchester City, poured oil on troubled waters, insisting that his City players trained in a "Corinthian" spirit.

This amused me a little, since I was recently re-reading my friend Edward Grayson's CORINTHIANS AND CRICKETERS, in which his hero G. O. Smith, greatest of all Corinthian centre-forwards, admitted that his Corinthian team never did any training at all! I believe it was Mr Lancaster, in any case, who shrewdly pointed out that international athletes are a dubious source of comparison, since they tend to be fanatics who drive themselves to the uttermost limits.

Dr Reilly was also generous enough, himself, to say, "In terms of hours of duty, footballing today turns out to be fairly light work. But give a group of footballers a ball, put them in a competitive situation, and you're going to get hard work."

With deference, I would suggest that the good doctors brought to their task too many preconceptions, and insufficient humility. Greater modesty would have enabled them to perceive the complexity of the subject.

Memories

Let me evoke two memories from past Olympics which I reported, which seem to me extremely relevant. First, Rome, in 1960, the training track at the Foro Italico, Gordon Pirie, who had just failed in (if I have my sequence of races right) the 5,000 metres, pounding endlessly round the 400 metre track, stopping after each lap to have his pulse and heart taken by his solemn, devoted coach, Herr Waldemar Gerschler.

Her Gerschler said plaintively that he couldn't understand why Pirie had run so poorly: he was eating well, he was sleeping well. But in his next race — the 10,000, again if I remember correctly — Pirie was worse still, and trailed still more faintly in the rear.

Four years later, I stood at the back of the Olympic Stadium in Tokyo while Mike Larrabbee, who had just won the 400 metres in rousing style, leaving the ultra-competitive and dedicated Robbie Brightwell a far off fourth, was giving us a talkathon. On and on and on he talked, amiable, intelligent and garrulous, but what stuck in my mind, before I left him in full song, was his insistence that he had not trained so hard. Had he done so, he said, there was a danger he would have "left it on the track."

That same danger was recognised by Real Madrid in their halcyon days, when they dominated the European Cup. They would train like fury in the pre-season period: then, when the season began, training would be light. The reasoning behind this was precisely that of Mike Larrabee: they were afraid to "leave it on the track," to blunt their natural abilities and appetite for the game.

Today, the Liverpools of this world haven't much time to train even if they wanted to. They are generally playing two games a week, and merely need to stay loose and limber between them. But the great and significant irony of the recent controversy was that it was reported cheek by jowl with the fact that Peter Taylor, the muscular little Spurs and England winger, had just gone into hospital for the dreaded and notorious pelvic girdle operation: one simply unknown until a few years ago.

Girdle

It was stated then, by doctors versed in sports medicine, that injury to the pelvic girdle in anyone as strong and fit as a young footballer spoke of immense strain. Moreover, the pelvic girdle is scarcely a part of the anatomy for which you can prescribe any particular training. If anything, the modern British footballer unquestionably does too much, rather than too little.

Moreover, if there is one charge you cannot level against him, it is precisely lack of stamina. However many hours we may spend asleep or sitting down, he is still able to run faster, harder and longer than almost any other footballers in the world, even if he may be deficient in other directions.

I have said before, and I will say again, that much of this resides in the mind. Thus, the Italian team which reached the Final pool in Argentina was criticised by myself, among others, and, more significantly, by Argentina's chief trainer, for its poor physical condition. The Argentine attributed this to bad preparation (which was nothing to what some cynical experts said of Argentina's own amazing stamina in the Final) but there I disagreed.

The fact that Italian footballers by and large are poor stayers has long seemed to me to be a psychological rather than a physical phenomenon.

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Eastern Europe

by Eric Batty

SPARTA COUP

ALTHOUGH transfers are normally difficult to arrange Sparta Prague pulled off a coup by obtaining the services of Jaroslav Pollak, a key midfield man in the team that won the 1976 European championship. Pollak is known throughout the country as "Bobby", after Bobby Charlton.

Frantisek Schmucker, the oldest active player last season, called up to play first team football by Banik Ostrava at 39, has hung up his boots and is now Ostrava's assistant manager-coach.

On the opening day of the season Slavia beat Ostrava 3-1 in Prague with right-winger Frantisek Vesely, scoring the second goal. Vesely, now in his 17th season with the club is the most popular figure at "Eden". The second round was played in midweek, known as an English week and in eight games there were two away winners. Plastika Nitra won 4-1 away to Red Star Cheb, but the surprise of the day was Dukla's home defeat (1-2) against Ostrava, for they were unbeaten at home all last season.

Dukla crashed again the following week, 3-1 away at Nitra who have provided a big surprise this season. One of two Slovak clubs at the top, Nitra are on six points, one behind Lokomotive Kosice after four matches. The Nitra-Dukla match pulled in more than 13,000 fans which was the biggest crowd of the weekend in spite of the fact that the game was shown, live and in full on TV.

The fourth round provided some needle games. In Prague there was a local derby, Sparta v Bohemians which ended all square at 2-2 before the day's top crowd of more than 21,000.

At home again after two defeats, champions Dukla came back to form at "Juliska", thumping Dukla Banska Bystrica 7-0 with right-winger Ladislav Vizek scoring three times and Zdenek Nehoda, the leading scorer amongst active players, getting two to boost his overall total to 116.

In a table topping joust second-placed Lokomotive Kosice v top team Bitrak, Lokomotive won 3-0 away to go top, and destroyed Nitra's 100 per cent record. International Jozef Moder and Peter Fecko each scored at Nitra, Fecko adding to his hat-trick in the 5-3 win over Sparta, netted in the span of 15 minutes after Sparta had scored first on the opening day of the season.

EAST GERMANY

Dynamo Dresden have dominated the game in the DDR for several years until BFC Dynamo Berlin ran away with the title unbeaten until near the end. This time it looks like Dresden again who have gone off like a house on fire with four wins in four outings, and a goals tally of 10-0. Champions Dynamo Berlin fell behind by dropping a point (1-1) away to Stahl Riesa.

Jaroslav Pollak, now with Sparta Prague.

Joachim Streich, 1st FC Magdeburg's international centre-forward who was recently voted "Footballer of the Year" . . . by journalists across the country, was quickly off the mark. He knocked in two goals in the opening game and followed that with a hat-trick at home to Chemie Leipzig.

On the same day FC Carl Zeiss (Jena) were away to Dynamo Dresden where the customary 30,000 turned out. Unusually in East Germany, Zeiss played with only two up in spite of an unwritten FA rule that everyone must play to the 1-3-3-3 system. But Zeiss still went down 0-3 with each of the Dresden strikers Heidler, Kotte and Sachse getting one goal apiece. Key man in the Dresden set-up is international midfield player Reinhard Hafner who looks set for another outstanding season for club and country.

1 FC Lokomotive Leipzig got off to a bad start as they did last season. This time they lost their first two games, and second time out crashed 2-3 at home to HFC Chemie (Halle) who had not won this fixture for 15 years. Wolfram Lowe, now 35 is still active for Lokomotive, but they desperately need a consistent striker, while Lowe of course cannot go on for ever.

Sachsenring Zwickau are the longest serving club in the top flight, now in their 30th season. But with Jurgen Croy still brilliant in goal though he has been sensibly replaced in the national team, they are once more in danger of the drop. Thanks to Croy they held Dynamo Dresden to 0-1 but are not in the relegation places only because FC Rot Weiss Erfurt and luckless army side FC Vorwarts are still without a point.

POLAND

On paper, Stal Mielec have a very strong outfit with goalkeeper Zygmunt Kukla now established in the national team along with Grzegorz Lato, and spearheading their attack with the right-wing star is Andrzej Szarmach. The last two were the surprise top scorers in the 1974 World Cup, but they consistently fail to produce the goods in league games.

Getting away to an early start at the end of July, they have now played six rounds of the league programme but Stal are the only club in the 16-team top division without a win.

They were in good company for champions Ruch Chorzow drew two and lost three of their opening matches, but sixth time out they pulled in a 25,000 crowd which was the biggest of the day at Wroclaw and beat Slask 2-0 with last season's top marksman Tadeusz Malmowicz giving them a boost with an early goal.

Zaglebie Sosnowiec, a team without stars lead the way after six games, beating leaders Lech Poznan in their last game 3-1 at home. Zaglebie are one of four teams on eight points but have already rattled up a goals tally of 14. Stal Mielec and Ruch are the lowest scorers with only three goals each to their credit after six games. Lato and Malnowicz have got two each for their respective clubs, but they clearly get little support from their colleagues right now.

GLITTERING PR PURSUED

Scottish Scene by Alex Gordon

IT was reasonable to assume, I suppose, that Dundee United, Aberdeen and Hibs would put the thumbscrews on the Old Firm in their efforts to prise away Scotland's glittering prizes.

Yet even this early in the season it is evident that all three clubs have their own problems to sort out never mind sorting out Celtic and Rangers!

DUNDEE UNITED roared to a Whirlwind start that blew itself out while the season was only two League games old. They thrashed Aston Villa, much vaunted, much admired, in a pre-season Friendly. Paul Sturrock struck a fine hat-trick past the bemused Jimmy Rimmer and United followed this upswiftly with a 3-2 victory over Spurs, Osvaldo Ardiles and all.

They were shaping well, they were looking good. They became the focus of attention with their bold, adventurous moves in the transfer market.

Manager Jim McLean persuaded Peter Bonetti to forget all about retiring and take his goalkeeping skills to Tannadice. It was an intriguing move, but not as interesting as the one that followed.

Willie Pettigrew, sometime superman, sometime superpuzzle, left Motherwell and a pyramid of problems in exchange for a £100,000 fee. Pettigrew sparked on his debut against Spurs and netted his first goal for United.

A crowd of 18,000 rolled in to watch the opening match of the League season, the Dundee derby at Tannadice. It was a superb match, a feast of enterprising goals, a game played at 100 miles per hour that might have sacrificed some of the finer skills as players hammered into one another. However, it still brought breathless excitement.

United won 3-0 and things were going too well. On the same day the club announced they had granted transfer requests by David Narey and Graeme Payne.

The Tannadice fans were still recovering from that disappointment when the club went down 1-0 to newly-promoted Kilmarnock at Rugby Park. It took some fine saves from veteran Bonetti, still as agile as his Chelsea days, to keep the score down.

Suddenly there was cause for alarm. Confidence was replaced by question marks. Boasts were replaced by bewilderment.

United lost their rhythm and then Aberdeen arrived at Tannadice to give them a real test. The ground was packed with would-be English buyers to watch the displays of Narey, Payne and Company, but they must have wondered about the reports they had been receiving from their scouts.

Surely the team and the players to watch were the scarlet-shirted Dons and not the home men. Aberdeen took control of the game right from the kick-off, dominating the midfield with Gordon Strachan and Alex McLeish outstanding, terrifying the United rearguard with the strong running of Steve Archibald, Joe Harper and the electrifying Mark McGhee.

United were torn to shreds in a flurry of lightning raids. Bonetti made magnificent saves from Harper and John McMaster before Iain Phillip misjudged a long, high ball from Strachan and McGhee slipped the ball past the unprotected Bonetti.

The game could have ended there and then. There was no way back for United. There was still half a match still to go, but the Dons had looked so impressive and so strong that United might just as well have saved their fans 45 minutes' worth of despair and stayed in the dressing room.

Goal Number Two was first-timed into the net by Harper after the speedy Archibald had brilliantly hooked the ball into his path following a blunder by Bonetti, who stayed too far from his line.

The third was deservedly scored by Archibald, who played so well throughout the afternoon. He was involved in a five-man move that ended with right-back Stuart Kennedy rifling over a fierce cross and Archibald was positioned perfectly to bullet a devastating header high into the net.

Bonetti didn't even move a muscle. He must surely be hoping that he doesn't have to endure more games like that during his stay in Scotland!

Worse was to come for United, though. It was difficult to believe that the team that had threatened so much just weeks beforehand had come apart at the seams so alarmingly. They lost 2-1 to part-time First Division Outfit Airdrie at Broomfield in the first leg of their second round League Cup tie.

The following day Tannadice fans had even more despair waiting for them. West Ham had just paid out £400,000 for their supremely talented full-back Raymond Stewart. Even their side's 2-0 second leg victory over Airdrie couldn't prevent United fans from grumbling and moaning.

Football, being the weird, unpredictable, amazing game that it is, had given them a kick in the guts after picking them up and dusting them down. United, unfortunately, are in danger of promising so much for so long, but failing to deliver the goods.

That is about as effective as the comedian who spends 15 minutes setting up a joke in front of an expectant audience and then forgetting the punchline.

ABERDEEN, I feel, will do well this season, but they must guard against the sort of complacency that was witnessed against Second Division side Meadowbank Thistle in the League Cup match at Pittodrie.

Certainly the Dons were never in any trouble after a landslide first leg win in Edinburgh, but, really, they should still have done so much better than only drawing 2-2 with plucky little Thistle.

Alex Ferguson won't stand for performances like that in the future and his players must realise this. If they didn't beforehand then they must have had it spelled out to them after that match!

Hibs goalkeeper Jim McArthur collects the ball with Aberdeen's Alex McLeish challenging. Hibs players (left to right) Jim Farmer, Arthur Duncan and Gordon Rae look on.

IZES

Aberdeen have been entrancing and entertaining in recent years, but they have had little to show for it. True they won the League Cup four years ago when they beat Celtic 2-1 in extra-time, but since then success has eluded them despite their promise.

With Billy McNeill in charge they finished only a point adrift of Rangers in the Premier League two seasons ago. It was a brave bid by the Dons, the only team to put any strain on the Ibrox men.

In the Scottish Cup Final they were tipped by many shrewd judges to get their revenge and beat Rangers, but for some strange, unknown reason they froze that sunny afternoon at Hampden.

They started as brightly as their scarlet shirts, but by the end it was their faces which were Scarlet! Rangers won 2-1, McNeill and assistant boss John Clark returned to Celtic, their first love, and ex-Ranger Alex Ferguson moved into the Pittodrie, leaving St Mirren in the process.

Last season they came so close again although consistency deserted them in the League. They took fourth place, but were a load of points behind Celtic. However, they reached the League Cup Final and this time played fairly well . . . but lost again by a 2-1 margin to Rangers!

They took the lead in that Final through Duncan Davidson and they did likewise on the same ground against Hibs in the Scottish Cup semi-final against Hibs, with Archibald, slick and so sure, on the button this time.

Again, though, they failed to capitalise on their advantage. They never controlled, they never dictated and Hibs, with Ally Macleod deciding to turn on a command performance, fought back into the game and eventually won 2-1 to book their place in the Final . . . again against Rangers.

Surely the Pittodrie men have learned their lesson by now. Certainly they showed dominating ability against Dundee United — there was never any danger of that game slipping away.

Aberdeen are a side I enjoy watching. They have adopted an almost Old Firm-like attitude of attacking in most games. They go out to win and it is a refreshing sight.

They have gifted individuals, too. I'm talking about Willie Miller, the so-calm, so-controlled skipper and defensive expert. He rarely breaks sweat as he sweeps up behind his rearguard, halting rivals' raids and helping to set up his own team's attacks with long, ssweeping, probing through balls.

There aren't many strikers who get much joy out of centre-back Willie Garner, an uncompromising giant of a player. Doug Rougvie, too, is from the same mould.

It is up front, however, that Aberdeen really sparkle. It astonishes me that Mark McGhee didn't click with Newcastle. On his form he can be one of the most mesmerising players in the country.

He likes to charge at defences and is just the sort of player every back-four man hates to face. McGhee sets up chances and he is always good for a goal or two at the end of the season as a back-up striker. He'll probably net about 15 in the League.

Dundee United's £100,000 signing Willie Pettigrew in action against Kilmarnock.

And I've got to admit to liking the style of Stevie Archibald. I've seen him take some hammerings, but he always comes back for more. He refuses to be shut out of a game and he unsettles defenders by popping up all over the place.

He plays with tenacity and talent, strength and skill. Put him in a rival's penalty area and he will create havoc. And what about Joe Harper? There's not much about Joe that remains to be said.

Harper has his critics, but he doesn't let them worry him. He says: "Every player has his faults and I'm no exception. However, I would say I have a fair record as a goalscorer, wouldn't you?"

He is far too modest to tell you that he has scored more goals than any other player in Aberdeen's history! He continues: "I know I'm doing my job well when the rival fans are giving me a bit of stick.

"I don't let them worry me, of course. Their jeers are music to my ears! The day I don't hear them whistling at me I'll know I am no longer a nuisance to their team.

"They won't be trying to unsettle me and I won't like that one little bit. I aim to give them plenty to shout about in future. I know I've still got a lot of goals still in me. I've always had faith in my ability to score goals and I see no reason to have a change of mind now.

"This is a good Aberdeen side, believe me. It's basically a very young team with a great future. I just hope I can play my part."

Harper, of course, is a former Hibs player and there must be times when they have wished that he had remained at Easter Road. Eddie Turnbull has built a completely new side with precious little cash to throw around.

He has seen the backbone of the present side taken away with the transfers of players such as Alex Cropley, John Blackley and John Brownlie, but he has worked well in the transfer market to bring in players such as MacLeod, only £25,000 from Southampton, Ralph Callachan, £60,000 from Newcastle, George Stewart, £30,000 from Dundee, and 'keeper Mike McDonald, £25,000 from Stoke City.

Turnbull has been trying to build an empire on decidedly shaky foundations. Apathy has hit the Hibs fans with a vengeance as was unhappily displayed last season when their team reached the Scottish Cup Final. They stayed away in their thousands which wasn't much of a reward for their team's fine effort in reaching Hampden.

One of the saddest sights in soccer so far as I am concerned is the vast terracing opposite the Easter Road stand when it is deserted. I can remember the days when there wasn't a single place to be found on that slope, but it's an entirely different story nowadays.

Alas, it doesn't look as though even a highly successful Hibs side can persuade their lost legions to return to Easter Road. It is a sad situation, but the club is stuck with it.

I wonder if Eddie Turnbull ever looks at that empty terracing and wonders if it's all worth it. He must remember the glory days of the Fifties when he was a member of the 'Famous Five' forward line.

Those were the days when Hibs had audiences to play in front of . . . fans and supporters who admired their talents, their power and their wizardry. Hibs could go out and buy Diego Maradona and Johan Cruyff tomorrow and they still wouldn't be guaranteed a sell-out crowd. It's a sobering thought, isn't it?

The club still struggles on, though, with best intentions at heart. They don't attack with the same bravado or gusto as they used to, but they are still a team to be admired.

It would be too easy to say this was a make-or-break season for Dundee, Aberdeen or Hibs.

However, they must realise that there is a crossroads just up ahead . . .

USSR
from Terry Bushell

Dynamo Kiev lead but it's getting tight

AFTER Dynamo Tbilisi and Shakhtyor Donetsk had seemed to be running away with the honours in the first half of the Soviet League season, now it is very tight at the top.

As the League adjourned for a fortnight to enable the national squad to prepare for the European Championship qualifying match in Greece, one point separated the top four teams. Dynamo Kiev and Moscow Spartak were the two new contenders for the League title, with Kiev leading on 35 points.

Tbilisi, Liverpool's opponents in the first round of the European Cup, slipped to fourth place, having played too much football in the preceding weeks, including an arduous Cup Final and matches representing the republic of Georgia in the Spartakiad tournament.

Spartak's leap to the leading group was most spectacular. After scoring the biggest win so far in the League this season, beating Lokomotiv 8-1 at home, they then beat Dynamo Minsk 3-1 and Zarya Voroshilovgrad 3-1, also both at home, and then thrashed Wings of the Soviets 5-0 in Kuibishev. Last season's top scorer in the League, Georgi Yartsev, was on target in all these games.

One result that stirred fans all over the country was Pakhtakor's 2-1 home win over Tbilisi. The Pakhtakor side had been rebuilt after the first team was killed in an air crash, and 50,000 supporters turned up at their Tashkent stadium to see them play the reigning champions.

David Kipiani put the visitors ahead in the ninth minute but then Renat Fairuzov, making his debut after being recruited from a local third division side, equalised with a beautiful headed goal, and then Vladimir Nechaev scored the winner from the penalty spot.

Seventeen Pakhtakor players and officials were killed when their plane collided in mid-air with another near the town of Dneprodzerzhinsk in the Ukraine. They were on their way to play Dynamo Minsk. An announcement in the national newspaper Izvestia said, three days after the crash and one day after the scheduled fixture, that the match had been postponed, without giving the reason.

The disaster never was reported in the national press. It was announced on the radio and readers of the paper *Soviet Sport* read a week later about the funeral procession in Tashkent. Pakhtakor, halfway in the League, had no players in the national squad.

The head of the football administration of the Soviet Sports Committee, Vyacheslav Koleskov, announced in Soviet Sport that an amendment has been made to the Soviet League rules, preserving for Pakhtakor its place in the Supreme League for the next three years.

Also, the club has been allowed to invite players from other clubs irrespective of terms in this and next season. A number of top players have already been assigned to the stricken club, among them Spartak midfield player Valeri Glushakov and Kiev defender Valeri Zuev.

The new manager of Pakhtakor, Oleg Bazilevich, is relying on this aid in forming his first team, but at the same time is bringing in some Pakhtakor reserves as well as the best young players of other Uzbekistan clubs.

Good wins

Tbilisi made up for their defeat at Pakhtakor to some extent by beating Chernomorets Odessa 3-1 at home. But Shakhtyor meanwhile went marching on with two good wins. First they beat Lokomotiv 4-1 at home and then won 2-1 at Kairat Alma-Ata. Veteran striker Vitali Starukhin was in great form in both games, scoring a hat-trick in the first and two in the second.

As Tbilisi have only three players in the national squad — Vitali Daraselia, Ramaz Shengelia and David Kipiani — the League adjournment gave most of the team the chance to recover from their glut of matches. Manager Nodar Akhalkatsi pointed out after the lacklustre Cup Final, won by Tbilisi only after a penalty competition, that the Final was for them their tenth match in 27 days.

Their opponents in the Final, Moscow Dynamo, had the ball in the net in the first half but the man who put it there, Gazzaev, was judged marginally offside.

And apart from that, in the entire 90 minutes of normal time and 30 minutes of extra time, neither side looked remotely like scoring — and even in the penalty competition at the end, the first three penalties were saved by the goalkeepers.

Dynamo Tbilisi: Gabelia, Sulakvelidze, Chivadze, Khinchagashvili, Mudzhiri (Kakilashvili, 61), Daraselia, M. Machaidze, Koridze (Kipiani, 46), Gutsaev, G. Machaidze, Shengelia.

Moscow Dynamo: Gontar, Lovchev, Nikulin, Makhovikov, Bubnov, Petrushin, Kolesov (Pavlenko, 80), Minaev, Tolstikh, Maksimenkov, Gazzaev.

Beskov takes over

KONSTANTIN Beskov, 58, replaced Nikita Simonyan as manager of the national team for the two vital European Championship qualifying matches against Greece and Finland.

Simonyan had been in charge since September 3, 1976, with little success. The Soviet Union failed to qualify for the 1978 World Cup Finals and is in very real danger of not making it to the Finals of the European Championship. Beskov will continue to manage his club, Moscow Spartak, which suggests his appointment as national team manager is not a permanent one.

He has already twice had short spells as national team manager, in 1963-64 and in 1974. In 1964 his players reached the Final of the European Championship in Madrid, losing to host side Spain, 2-1.

As a player, Beskov was a forward in the famous Moscow Dynamo team that toured Britain in 1945. He scored 103 goals in 231 games in the Soviet League.

As a manager, he was in charge of the Moscow Dynamo side that became the first ever Soviet team to reach a European club tournament final, when they lost 3-2 to Glasgow Rangers in the Cup-Winners' Cup Final in Barcelona in 1972. He has also worked with Torpedo, the Central Army Club, Zarya and Lokomotiv.

He has been in charge of Spartak for the last two years, bringing them back into the top flight after they had been relegated. They finished fifth last season and this year are contesting the League title.

ARCADIA AHEAD

WITH South Africa's new multiracial soccer league nearly three-quarters complete, three teams are locked in battle for the league championship.

Arcadia of Pretoria holds a one point lead over the Johannesburg club Highlands Park, but Kaizer Chiefs, of Soweto, trails Arcadia by just two points and has three matches in hand.

Arcadia and Highlands drew 0-0 when they met early in September, allowing Chiefs to move closer to the top by coming from 0-1 down to beat Benoni United 3-1.

Only two other teams have an outside chance of becoming South Africa's first real champions, Hellenic of Cape Town, managed by former England striker Johhny 'Budgie' Byrne, and Durban City.

South Africa's first full season of multi-racial soccer has been plagued by various problems, not the least crowd misbehaviour and refereeing disputes.

There have been complaints that clubs have not integrated sufficiently, but that problem has evaporated as the law of supply and demand has taken over.

Thus Chiefs, who started the season with an all-black line-up have found white goalkeeper Rob Rusnati the answer to their defensive problems.

ARGENTINA DEVALUE THEIR TOUR

ARGENTINA massively devalued the second stage of their European tour when they set off from Buenos Aires at the weekend.

Their 17-strong squad included only two of the World Cup-winning side — skipper Daniel Passarella and midfielder Americo Gallego — and NOT there was brilliant newcomer Diego Maradona.

The Argentinos Juniors star had just scored the third goal which sealed his country's final victory over holders Russia in the World Youth Cup in Tokio.

But he then flew home to start national service and was thus ruled out of the squad for Europe — a squad which was virtually identical to the line-up which finished bottom, behind Brazil and Bolivia, in the South American championship qualifiers.

In the Youth Cup final Argentina went behind to an Igor Ponomarev goal after 51 minutes. But a Hugo Alves penalty a quarter of an hour later brought the equaliser, and first Ramon Diaz (70), then Maradona wrapped it up for Argentina.

Also in the final team — but who must miss the European tour — was Racing Buenos Aires midfielder Juan Barbas.

Argentina face West Germany in West Berlin on Wednesday and Yugoslavia on Sunday in Belgrade.

NEW BONUSES IN POLAND

by Arthur Rotmil

IT IS now six years since Poland eliminated England and Wales to reach the World Cup finals in which they finished in a well deserved third place. Since then the national team has continued to enjoy immense popularity with the millions of football fans throughout the land. But at the same time it became noticeable that the performances of the club sides did not improve as expected.

In the European competitions Polish teams, admittedly handicapped by the long winter break, did not distinguish themselves and have a poor record. In fact in the 24-year history of European tournaments only one Polish team ever reached the final — Gornik Zabrze in the 1970 Cup Winners Cup, but they lost to Manchester City.

Structure

The structure of Polish football, a type of amateurism apparently practiced by professionals, has not been much help either, in developing strong club sides. The vast majority of footballers are afraid of falling between two stools. While soccer may be offering some form of reward now, the future for any Polish player who doesn't learn a trade must be bleak, in a country whose government does not recognise private ownership, except by people who produce the good themselves (e.g. a shoemaker, tailor, baker, etc.). The Poles therefore cannot invest their money like the Western Europeans in a shop, or pub for example.

Now apparently the authorities have had a change of heart. As from this season footballers in Poland will officially receive financial rewards in the shape of fixed contracts and bonuses — but this, according to the Football Federation (PZPN), will not infringe their amateur status! For the players are still supposed to follow their chosen occupation, outside the game. . . .

The new regulations were introduced as a result of an article in the Warsaw newspaper "Polityka". According to their report some footballers in the First and Second Division earn about 2,500 zloty (approx. £400) a month. With the approval of official payments the government are hoping to stop under-the-counter deals and also to halt the transfers of players to clubs offering better inducements.

At the same time the Supreme Sports Council have banned all transfers of players until after the Olympic Games of 1980. There has, however, been some movement of team managers. Orest Lenczyk, who last year led Wisla Krakow to the championship, moved to local rivals Slask who were previously managed by Aleksander Majdura.

Wisla's new boss is Lucjan Franczak, the former youth team coach. Andrzej Strejlau left Legia Warsaw, who appointed their former international Lucjan Brychczy, incidentally one of the finest footballers Poland had produced . . . Odra Opole's chief Piechniczek has been hired by the Football Federation and his place was taken by Józef Zwierzyna.

Difference

The championship began much earlier than in most European countries — on July 29. Ruch Chorzów, who last season won their twelfth title, are again strongly fancied. The Silesian club did not find it easy, being chased by Widzew Lodz who reached the same number of points, but Ruch had the better goal difference.

Top scorer in Poland was Kazimierz Kmiecik (Wisla Kraków) with 17 goals in 30 games, followed by Tadeusz Malnowicz (Ruch) and Andrzej Szarmach (Stal Mielec) both on 15; Romam Ogaza (Szombierki Bytom) 13; Alfred Bolcek (Odra Opole) and Jerzy Dworczyk (Zaglebie Sosnowiec) each 11 and Tomasz Korynt (Arka Gdynia) 10.

Ruch will continue to rely on Malnowicz who is 26 and knocking on the door of the national team, as their chief striker. The veteran Jan Benigier (29) and the talented Albin Mikulski (22) should lend support in the front line. At the back team manager Leszek Jezierski can count on the experienced Jerzy Wyrobek (30), Marian Piechaczek (26), Albin Wira (26) and Piotr Drzewiecki (29).

Runners-up Widzew Lodz still boast Poland's current "super star" Zbigniew Boniek (23), voted "Footballer of the Year" and recently called up into the "Rest of the World" XI which beat Argentina 2-1 in Buenos Aires, on the anniversary of the host country winning the World Cup.

Stalwarts

Widzew also claim to have the currently best goalkeeper in the land in Stanislaw Burzynski who is 31, the same age as the present national team 'keeper Zygmunt Kukla. The latter plays for Stal Mielec (third last season), who are still relying on such stalwarts as Grzegorz Lato (29) and Andrzej Szarmach (29), both of 1974 World Cup fame.

Szarmach was recently in disgrace and in fact lost not only his place in the national side, but also with the club. But having found his scoring boots he is making something of a comeback. Stal's team chief Zenon Ksiazek is nevertheless grooming several youngsters eager to break through, but they will have to wait their chance — for the moment.

Surprise cup winners Arka Gdynia finished only 11th in the league; their stars are Adam Musial (31) also a 1974 World Cup veteran; Janusz Kupcewicz (24) and striker Tomasz Korynt (25). The draw for the European competitions has not been kind to the Polish teams: Ruch meet record breakers Dynamo Berlin (Champions Cup); Arka might progress at the expense of Beroe Stara Zagora (Bulgaria) (Cup Winners Cup), but Widzew must meet St. Etienne, while Stal Mielec should overcome Aarhus (Denmark) both in the UEFA-Cup.

REAL MADRID TROFEO TERESA

THE Trofeo Teresa Herrera, up for grabs each August in La Coruna, is the longest-standing and most prestigious of Spain's summer tournaments.

The list of past competitors proves it, even if a few makeweights have been thrown in along the way — as occasionally with Coruna themselves — to provide local interest amid the spectacular appearances of the hierarchy of world football.

This year was the first time for several seasons that there was no Brazilian presence. Vasco da Gama had been provisionally booked, but later decided to come to Spain later in the month, and their place was taken by Gijon, runners-up in Spain last season to Real Madrid.

The Madrid presence was valuable — both for the organisers, the Coruna municipality, and the club. They earned not far short of £100,000 for their two games, more than the other three clubs put together, and their players were on a £4,000 competition win bonus.

Thus the trophy was not a meaningless pre-season warm-up. There was plenty at stake.

In fact, the clubs — West Bromwich and Honved made up the four — had long been booked when extra spice was added by the transfer of black England winger Laurie Cunningham from Albion to Madrid.

Madrid suggested to the organisers that their presence might now be worth an increase in the guarantee. The reply was short and to the point: "Even without Cunningham you would have filled the stadium — forget it!"

The Real Madrid captain, Pirri, seen here with the 'Trofeo Teresa Herrera' after Real had defeated Gijon in the final.

Warm-up

Madrid approached the tournament as semi-unknowns. They had a new coach in Yugoslavia Vujadin Boskov, a new foreign star in Cunningham, new midfielders in Angel from Salamanca and Miguel Portugal from Burgos. Also they were about to complete the signing of Burgos stopper Garcia Navajas.

They had played just three games pre-season, one a warm-up in Maastricht, Holland, then beaten Köln (on penalties) and Anderlecht to win the Millenium tournament in Brussels. Now Spain would see the new Real.

Gijon approached the tournament in a state of flux. Vicente Miera had asked for more money after the previous season's success, and been refused. So he had quit and now former assistant Manuel Diaz Novoa was in the hot seat — a cool, thorough man who had worked with many of the Gijon players during their days in the youth sections.

Novoa had problems. Spain right winger Enrique Moran, an unpredictable and unsettling character, had been sold to Betis and had to be replaced. The board had signed Javier Aguilar from Real Madrid, but Novoa wanted first to try the existing reserves before giving Aguilar his head. Then Gijon had injuries — most notably defenders Cundi and the Argentine Reffa, while centre-back Maceda was out of the reckoning with a heart complaint.

"This is not the team of last season, I'm afraid," said Gijon secretary Josemanuel Fernandez, who had switched to a desk job after his playing career was abruptly ended by a collision with Madrid's Santillana (they remain excellent friends).

Honved brought to the tournament a famous name but little more, while West Bromwich arrived as joint favourites alongside Madrid, and were thus kept apart from them in the semi-finals. Everyone's hope — except Gijon and Honved of course — was for a Madrid-West Bromwich final which would put Cunningham against his old team-mates.

It was with that in mind that half a dozen national and provincial newspapers had sent reporters out from England.

Albion had also made changes after finishing an exciting third in the League. Cunningham gone, so had long-serving midfielder Len Cantello, and at £1 million manager Ron Atkinson had filled the gaps with England winger Peter Barnes and England under-21 captain Gary Owen, both from Manchester City.

The feeling was that they would snap into the team from the start — as it had appeared from the club's 1-0 win over Ajax the previous Saturday when Barnes scored a fine goal. But the best-laid plans of mice, men and football managers can frequently go awry. . . .

From my point of view the tournament provided an ideal opportunity to make a better acquaintance with the four clubs, their players, and many of the peripheral personalities floating round the tournament.

MONDAY, AUGUST 13

Albion trained at the Riazor Stadium, across the road from the crowded beach, in the morning, followed by Gijon. But it was at night that the place came alive, with the first semi-final, Real Madrid against Honved.

Madrid: Garcia Remon — San Jose (Portugal 69), Isidro, Pirri, Camacho — Angel, Stielike, Del Bosque — Juanito (Roberto Martinez 81), Santillana, Cunningham.

Honved: Gujdar — Paroczai, Kocsis, Nagy, Varga (Gyimesi 85) — Dajka, Pinter, Pal (Bodonyi 65), Lukacs — Weimper, Kozma.

While there was huge interest in Laurie Cunningham's first appearance for Madrid in Spain, it was tantalising to see Jose Camacho back for the first time since his serious knee injury 18 months ago.

Confidence

I have to report not only that Camacho came through the tournament without any twinges, but that he appears to have lost little of the iron confidence and commitment which made him — and should make him again — one of Europe's outstanding defenders.

But whereas Camacho is hard but fair, the same couldn't be said for Madrid's stand-in stopper, Isidro. He treated Honved spearhead Istvan Weimper mercilessly, beginning as early as the fifth minute as the Hungarians built up their neat patterns.

Madrid found it hard to settle. They were moving too quickly, too many passes were going astray even, remarkably, from the usually so-accurate Vicente Del Bosque, who had an awful time.

For Honved Dajka and Weimper forced

WIN THE HERRERA

BY KEIR RADNEDGE

sharp saves from Garcia Remon, before Madrid caught light. Cunningham accelerated through, but tried a shot instead of passing to the unmarked Santillana, then Honved 'keeper Gujdar had to dive at Juanito's feet to concede the corner.

Five minutes into the second half and Boskov ordered Portugal to start warming up. He had barely trotted from his place before Madrid went ahead. Cunningham slipped the ball inside and skipper Pirri hit a 25-yarder which Kocsis deflected past Gujdar.

The confidence of a goal did wonders for Madrid. Juanito jinked through and was fouled, then Angel shot just wide, Santillana headed narrowly over and Honved started to panic.

Madrid could have had the Hungarians on the run. Instead, complacency crept in — fatally. For Weimper went through the middle and Garcia Remon was lucky to save with his legs. Then Honved manager Lajos Tichy made two vital substitutions, putting the nimble and skilled Bodonyi and Gyimesi into midfield — the only players below six foot in the Hungarian squad! — and at once the game started to flow their way.

Madrid had one last chance: Juanito raced clear, Madrid had four men against two defenders, but instead of passing to Santillana who couldn't miss, Juanito selfishly decided to go on his own and missed. The crowd shrieked their disapproval — and Juanito never quite recovered.

With seven minutes left, the Hungarians struck back. Del Bosque brought down the impressive Pinter and Kozma belted in his free kick at the far post. As the final whistle blew the Hungarians raised their arms in triumph — a dangerously premature celebration. For in the penalty contest Garcia Remon saved from Lukacs and Gyimesi and Madrid won 4-3 — no thanks to Pirri, who provided Madrid's only spot-kick failure.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14

The second semi-final.

Gijon: Castro — Redondo, Doria, Jimenez, Uria — Joaquin, David, Mesa (Andres 88) — Abel, Quini (Aguilar 74), Ferrero (Pedro 86).

Albion: Godden — Batson, Wile, Robertson, Statham — Trewick, Robson, Owen — A. Brown (Mills 84), T. Brown, Barnes.

Gijon boss Novoa planned his match carefully — hoping to counteract Albion's hard-working midfielders by weight of numbers, and catch the English out by getting a forward in behind the attacking left-back Derek Statham.

All this meant a game with few chances, only some long-range shooting. Bryan Robson and Ally and Tony Brown tried their luck without success in the first half for Albion, while Gijon didn't achieve even that much.

The second half was a different story. As Albion pressed forward the harder so they provided more space for Gijon's tricky and resourceful Argentine left-winger Enco Ferrero. And he was to prove a killer.

His first threat came just after the break, forcing a sharp save from Tony Godden. In the 55th minute Gijon claimed Wile brought him down in the penalty box, but the referee unpopularly waved play on (I thought the referee would have given a penalty if Ferrero hadn't made such a meal of his fall).

Minutes later and Ferrero's skills had Wile doing the splits, catching the Argentine with his studs and collecting a booking. It was a sign of the way the game was going.

Sure enough, in the 68th minute Ferrero hit a long ball out to the left, Jimenez took it down brilliantly from his chest, raced into the box and as Joaquin flicked the cross square, so skipper Quini was running forward unmarked to prod in the only goal.

Mesa, Gijon's long-haired, long-striding midfielder — an immensely impressive player — was booked for a foul on Trewick, but that was the only hiccup on Gijon's path to the final.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15

The third-place match, Albion against Honved.

"What's the form with the third-place match," Albion manager Atkinson asked as we had retreated to the team bus after the defeat by Gijon. "Do they take it seriously, or is it a throw-away game for the reserves?"

I said that the game was taken seriously, but that in the past most teams started with a couple of new players and threw on more — three substitutes are allowed — as the game progressed.

Atkinson duly rested Ally Robertson from the back four and injured Ally Brown, and gave a match to one-time Leeds goalkeeper David Stewart, who was vying with the unsettled Tony Godden for the chance to prove that Atkinson had no more need of Hajduk's Ivan Katalinic, who had played on trial in the win over Ajax.

Injured

Honved were without the injured Pinter, but all the other ten six-footers who began against Madrid were back on duty.

Albion's presence in the third-place match was a double disappointment. First it meant there would be no meeting with Cunningham — apart from the off-duty ones, since Madrid and Albion were in the same hotel — and secondly it meant the English club had failed to live up to the reputation established by their league showing and in their UEFA Cup clash with Valencia.

Unfortunately they couldn't find the form to put that right against Honved.

The Hungarians, suffocating in defence, looked an appallingly difficult team against which to play, and Albion had few chances. The subdued Barnes clipped one cross-shot along the bar and David Mills stubbed his toe in front of goal in the first half, while Tony

Brown forced a fine save from Gujdar in the closing minutes.

But they badly missed injured centre-forward Cyrille Regis, though it wasn't until after Honved had again introduced Messrs. Gyimesi and Bodonyi that they showed the sort of ability to capitalise on the English misfortune. Thus in the 62nd minute Gyimesi it was who nipped through a gap in the middle to steer Lukacs's through pass wide of Stewart for the winner.

Honved: Gujdar — Paroczai, Kocsis, Nagy, Varga — Dajka, Pal (Badonyi 46), Lukacs, Fejes — Weimper (Gyimesi 52), Kozma.

Albion: Stewart — Batson (Bennett 84), Wile, Pendrey, Statham — Mills, Robson (Robertson 85), Owen — Summerfield, T. Brown, Barnes (Mosses 68).

By the time the third-place came to an end there were more than 40,000 jam-packed into the stadium, though it wasn't Honved–Albion which had attracted them but the need to find a place to see the final, Madrid against Gijon.

Madrid had pipped Gijon for the league title, and the Asturias club and its fans saw this game as revenge. But there was little malice about — and none on the terraces — there was plenty of support for both teams, but none of the local partisanship which often tends to sour league or cup games.

Gijon were unchanged, but Madrid brought in Garcia Navajas for his debut and Rafael Cortes played right-back for the injured San Jose. Stielike played despite a heavy cold, Cunningham, despite an upset stomach.

Boskov explained later: "For a league game I wouldn't have considered him. But the crowd wanted to see him. He didn't do much, but while he was on the field Gijon always had to put two men on him, so he helped give the others more room to work."

The game burst into the life the crowd demanded in the 18th minute. Ferrero burst down the right, Angel brought him down, and Gijon skipper and top scorer Quini put his penalty against the post with Garcia Remon going the wrong way!

From that moment the teams snapped into top gear to provide one of the best games the fans will see all season.

Gijon brought teamwork, spirit, organisation and provincial fire through the efforts of Quini and Ferrero in attack, Mesa in midfield, and sweeper Doria: Madrid complemented them with the beautiful skills of Stielike, the salmon-like leaping and heading of Santillana, the power of Camacho, security of Garcia Remon and — above all — the unbelievably hard work of Angel.

It may be that Madrid have found a new star in this No. 8. A new Luis Del Sol. He's not

● Continued on Page 50

McKenzie in retreat

FOR a man whose moves have cost only a shade less than £1 million; who excited those appreciative of the finer arts of the game so much that a fierce campaign was mounted to get him into the England team only three years ago, and who is still only 29 — when players are fully mature — the Third Division seems an anachronism.

But Duncan McKenzie, of the flowing skills and outrageous soccer talent is enjoying his 'retreat' after a traumatic three years. Though it's rather like seeing Egon Ronay at the corner table of a transport cafe on the A1 eating a mixed grill laced with tomato ketchup, McKenzie is glad the pressure is off him for the moment.

He was one of the first English stars to try their hand abroad when, in July 1976 after two turbulent years at Leeds United, he moved to Anderlecht for a £200,000 fee. He had cost Leeds a cool quarter million when Brian Clough bought him in the summer of '74 from Forest 17 days into his 44 day reign at Elland Road.

Clough's sacking and the effect it had on players who were chasing the European Cup rocked the game and the club. But McKenzie with his constant smile and ever-present cigarette sailed through it all. By the time Jimmy Armfield had decided to leave Bolton to sit in the white hot chair at Leeds, Duncan had made himself one of the biggest favourites ever with Yorkshire crowds.

His special brand of showmanship and seeming impossibility to grasp what playing with the highly mechanised Leeds' team meant won over even the hard pros in the dressing room even though he was a luxury — though they could then afford one.

Tales abounded of his strange athletic feats. "It all began when one of the lads at Forest bet me I couldn't jump a five bar gate. I did — easily — and then beat them throwing stones for fun across the Trent which is about 100 yards wide opposite Notts County's ground. I threw them into Meadow Lane," he recalls.

Then there was the challenge he issued to Forest boss Dave Mackay on a pre-season tour of Portugal. He claimed he could beat Mackay — a good golfer — over nine holes: McKenzie throwing the ball, Mackay playing normally.

"The other players chose a course which was tight and short and when he saw it, Dave backed down."

His most famous feat was his notorious car-jumping act, first performed for a highly appreciative audience of team mates in the Leeds car park and immediately followed by another wonder throw. Again watched by the United players he stood on the narrow strip of grass between running track and goalline in front of the Kop, took a couple of steps forward and promptly hurled a golf ball more than 140 yards into the main Elland Road. It bounced just once on the second tier of terracing being built at the time — now United's South Stand.

But back to his ability on the field . . . for a man who was once nearly bought by Mansfield Town for £6,500 he hasn't done too badly! He had two loan periods at Field Mill and during the first, Mansfield couldn't scrape up enough to keep him. During the second he suddenly blossomed, scoring six goals in seven games, including a hat trick.

Forcing

Mackay hurriedly recalled him and he went back into a team that was forcing up several potential 'new faces' . . . himself, John Robertson, Martin O'Neill and Tony Woodcock.

Then, after contractual difficulties when he threatened to walk out on Forest — typically extreme — he was suddenly whisked away into a cauldron that was already bubbling at Leeds. It took him time to adapt to the Leeds' way of things though even the departed Don Revie said of him: "I look on him as one for the future . . . there is no limit to what he can achieve."

McKenzie also learned at the 'academy'. "When people like Giles and Bremner had a go at you, you had to listen. They had achieved everything and I'd not.

"Eventually I soaked up the Leeds' style . . . cool, calculated murder."

Yet, in midsummer of '76 he moved to Anderlecht. For any other player the problems might have been too great but McKenzie, with his ten 'O' levels, already spoke French and soon mastered 'Pidjin Dutch'.

"I didn't really enjoy it there. Their First Division was a nightmare because all teams tried to stop us playing at all costs. Average attendances were only 14,000 so though it sounded good the reality was very different.

"When Billy Bingham came in for me, Everton needed a lift. So I came back and we settled in the area which was where Dot (his wife) came from. Couldn't be better we thought. But then Dot's father died, Billy Bingham was sacked and Gordon Lee, a man whose football ideals were so different from mine, arrived.

"From the start Bruce Rioch and I got the feeling we weren't going to be there long. Though I get on extremely well with him off the field Gordon expected each of his players to do everything — run, jump, challenge back, score goals, defend etc.

"After 18 months of knowing I wasn't really wanted I signed for Chelsea. It was the only thing I've ever done on impulse in the game. I didn't want to leave because we were settled — at last — on Merseyside.

"But I'm a footballer and footballers tend to get involved in things like that. When I got to Chelsea I couldn't believe what was going on. The club was in desperate trouble financially and when relegation came they just had to unload every 'star' they had.

"Danny Blanchflower at least tried to get to grips with things by sitting down with the accountants and attempting to sort out what had to be done but the exodus began as the black clouds loomed. Every match we went out knowing the club was in trouble and it didn't help performances.

"Fortunately we hadn't moved down there — I lived in an hotel — and when Blackburn came for me I had no real hesitation. I just wanted to get away from it all even though it was practically certain Blackburn were doomed to the Third Division.

"Then our two week old baby died and it had a dreadful effect on me. I just strolled through games with my heart not in it but then as the shock and sorrow wore off I started to turn it on. It was too late though.

"So now it's Division Three — and for someone who's been used to life at the top it's not easy. The pace is quicker and teams play a stifling game.

"Realistically we should be contenders for promotion. Howard Kendall has taken to management like Malcolm Allison to transfers. Personally I've got to come to terms with the level but believe me I'm really enjoying myself here. It makes such a change from the cut-throat football in Division One.

"If I can contribute to the side positively then I'll be doing the job I'm paid for."

Career record: Football League debut: September 1969 for Forest. League appearances: Forest 105 plus six substitutions, 41 goals; Mansfield Town (two loan periods) 13 plus three, 10 goals; Leeds United 64 plus two, 27 goals; Anderlecht 30, 16 goals; Everton 48, 14 goals; Chelsea 15, four goals; Blackburn (to last Saturday) 20, four goals. Total Football League appearances: 245. Goals: 100. Goal striking rate: one every 2.45 games.

Bolivia beat 'new' Brazil

THE 'new' Brazilian team had a terrible time at almost 4,000 metres altitude in La Paz and lost 2-1 to Bolivia. It was a big surprise and the second defeat for Coutinho since he took over as Brazilian coach. The first one was against France (1-0) in Paris just before the World Cup. One week before Bolivia had won against Argentina in La Paz also by 2-1.

Several Brazilian and Argentinian players had problems with the height of La Paz. Even Coutinho had to be given oxygen after the match and couldn't go to the press conference. The Brazilians are worried because they must play Bolivia to qualify for the next World Cup. Now they are planning to go to Chile, Colombia and Mexico before the match in La Paz to adapt the players slowly to the height.

Bolivia and Brazil have played nine times, with the Brazilians winning seven and Bolivia only two (Cochabamba and now La Paz). Brazil scored 44 goals and conceded 12. The previous match was in Cali (Colombia) in the 1977 World Cup qualifying tournament and Brazil won 8-0.

Now in La Paz the Bolivian players ran all the time and they didn't score more goals because Leao mad several good saves. The best Brazilian players such as Zico, Falcao, Socrates and Nelhino were injured and couldn't play.

The Brazilian team started well and after only four minutes Junior hit the post. After 30 minutes Zé Sergio crossed the ball and the full-back Vaca committed a hand ball: penalty. Roberto converted: Brazil 1-0. Five minutes later Oscar scored a penalty to make it 1-1.

In the second half Aguillar took a corner from the left side. Leao and Oscar stooped and Aragones headed into the net: Bolivia 2-1.

Then Brazil played Argentina in Rio and in a very difficult match managed to win 2-1. Zico played in Maracana but Falcao and Socrates missed the match again. Brazil started well and Zico scored after only two minutes, but the Argentinians fought back and equalised after 30 minutes when Coscia scored after an Edinho mistake. The first half ended 1-1.

by Claudio Kuck of 'O Globo'

The Brazilian midfield wasn't working very well with Carpegiani and Zenon misunderstanding each other. The new Brazilian side is not the same without Falcao and Socrates. On the other hand Diego Maradona was playing superbly. But after 53 minutes the young winger Tita exchanged the ball several times with his Flamengo mate Zico and scored. Brazil 2-1. The Argentinians tried very hard to equalise again, but the Brazilian defence was playing well, with Leao and Amaral stopping everything.

Cesar Menotti liked the new Brazilian side: "Now they are an attacking team again, have wingers and really look like the Brazilian side of the 1970 World Cup. But for me the six best teams in the world now are (in this order): Argentina, Holland, Germany, Brazil, Italy and the sixth one between Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and Hungary. It was a pity that Falcao didn't play against us in Maracan. I would like to see him. He is the best Brazilian midfield player even before the last World Cup and I can't understand why Coutinho didn't call him up in Argentina."

* * *

JORGE Vieria is the new Botafogo coach. Joel Martins left.

* * *

Every year more clubs are playing in the Brazilian championship. This time a record of 97 teams will dispute the tournament.

* * *

The coach Evaristo de Macedo (Santa Cruz) who as a player was with Barcelona and Real Madrid, went to Qatar.

He will take charge of the national team in a one million dollar contract.

Rubens Minelli (Sao Paulo's coach) went to Saudi Arabia.

Brazilian goalkeeper Leao.

Flamengo won again the Guanabara Cup, winning 4-2 against Vasco.

Gremio won also the second part of the Rio Grande do Sul Championship in Porto Alegre. Their best player is Paulo Cesar who almost signed with Fulham last year.

ELIAS FIGUEROA, Chilean international defender and one of the best players to come out of that country who also shone in Brazilian and Uraguayan soccer, is recuperating slowly from a lung infection brought on when he crashed into his goalkeeper during a training session with his club, Palestino, in Santiago. The accident has kept him out of Chile's team in the current South American Championship, but reports of his death, circulated recently in Santiago, were premature.

GARRINCHA, former Brazilian international right-winger, considered by many the best ever, was interned in a sanatorium in Rio at press time with acute hypertension brought on when he played in a Rio "beach championship" match on the sands shortly after eating and drinking a lot. But Garrincha's problem really started soon after he left top class soccer when his marriage problems and loneliness drove him to alcohol.

BIRCEU GUIMARES, Brazil's World Cup midfielder, who was transferred from Rio's Vasco da Gama to Mexican club America last season, wants to return home mainly because he feels that in Mexican soccer he has lost his image of "third best player in the world." He values himself at 530,000 dollars and hoped that America, (who paid 400,000 dollars for him last year) will not ask more.

FERNANDO MORENA, Uruguayan international forward (27), from Peñarol (Uruguay) to Rayo Valenciano (Spain) for 70,000 dollars.

ENRIQUE VILLALBA, Paraguayan international forward, from Olimpia (Paraguay) to Anderlecht (Belgium) — no fee disclosed.

HUMBERTO BRAVO, Argentine international forward, from Paris FC (France) back to Talleres Cordoba (Argentina) for 200,000 dollars.

VICTOR MARCHETTI, Argentine half, from Nacional (Uruguay) to San Lorenzo (Argentina) for 110,000 dollars.

Readers' Letters

***While *World Soccer* is pleased to hear from readers, your views stand a better chance of getting across if letters are concise. Otherwise editing — because of space restrictions — becomes imperative.**

SIR — Referring to my letter in September and your comment — Yes, England won the 1966 World Cup with the help of Stiles and linesman Bakhramov among others. Incidentally, England have never been among the top four on foreign ground. Sweden have (twice) and they have also played the last three World Cup Finals competitions (they were narrowly defeated by West Germany in the 1966 qualifiers). But it is good to see Greenwood's 'new' England, the most skilful England I have ever seen. — S-O.

Sjöblom,
Ekenäs, Finland.

SIR — Could you please tell me where I can purchase European club match programmes, especially West German programmes?

Gerry Storey,
South Norwood.

**Some British dealers occasionally handle a few foreign league programmes. For specific West German clubs, the only answer is to write direct to the clubs. But the programme industry abroad is far less commercialised than in Britain.*

SIR — Re Mr Rook's letter (September) regarding books on Brazilian football. I am researching information on Brazilian international football from 1915 with the ultimate objective of having a book on the subject published. I hold almost all the Brazilian international line-ups but if any readers can help me with information on the following games I would be most grateful — scorers v Durazno (Uruguay) 9-0 in 1923 and Switzerland 1-1 in 1956, plus full details of games v Leon and Irapuato (1970); Rio XI and Millionarios (1977); Fluminense, Panama, Al Ahli, Pernambuco and Rio Grande do Sol (all 1978).

M. Willis,
349 Purbrook Way,
Bedhampton, Hants PO9 3SE.

SIR — Could you tell me please how I can buy the International Football Book edited by Eric Batty?

A. Cazzola,
via Dagnini 27, Bologna.

**Souvenir Press, 43 Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3PA.*

SIR — Could you please give me any information as to the purchase of *European International Football* by Gordon Jeffrey, published in 1963? Also, could you tell me who were East German champions in 1956, 1957 and 1959. I have seen it given as Wismut Aue, Wismut Chemnitz and even Karl Marx Stadt? Did Brazil win or lose 8-4 to Yugoslavia in Belgrade in 1934? Finally, what are the records of Argentina v Uruguay and do they hold the record for full international meetings against each other?

N. McCormick,
Erskine, Scotland.

**European International Football was first published by Nicholas Kaye. The 1956-57 and 59 East German champions are all one and the same. Yugoslavia beat Brazil 8-4. Argentina and Uruguay have played 166 times – a record.*

SIR — Can you tell me when the draw for the finals of the European championship will be held and also which grounds will be used? And can I have any Olympic football results from 1900 to 1979. Not semi-finals or finals.

S. Griffiths,
Romsey, Hants.

**The draw won't be made until the spring – the cities are Milan and Turin, Rome and Naples. Sorry, we haven't the space here to print all the Olympic results!*

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I AM a 15-year-old soccer fan who likes French, German and Italian football, and would like an English speaking pen pal from one of these countries who regularly watches a team from the first division of these countries. 191 Brentford Avenue, Whitleigh, Plymouth, Devon, England.

WANTED: New York Cosmos souvenirs (posters, pennants etc). To buy or swap. Also a New York penfriend. I support Chelsea and Cosmos. Philip Davis, 16 Dart Road, Cove, Farnborough, Hampshire, GU14 9PD.

I HAVE English non-League club badges to exchange for official English League and Scottish League club badges. Send S.A.E. for lists to K. Wilkinson, 18 Hinton Street, Fairfield, Liverpool L6 3AR, Merseyside.

OFFERS INVITED for European Police Football Championship programme, 1977 (112 pages). The Foul Book of Football No. 1, Norway v. Northern Ireland (EC), 1974. Brann v. Sogndal Norwegian Cup Final, 1976. Nir Tivon, c/o Tenner Bora, 3 Rambam Street, Givatayim, Israel.

FOR SALE. 19 World Soccer mags, from 1975-79 in good condition, £3 inc. postage. Or will exchange for 2 empty Shoot binders or 1 World Soccer binder. Graham Hannah, 858 Tong Road, Leeds 12.

19-YEAR-OLD Chelsea supporter seeks pen-pals from all over the world. Edward Roullier, 14F Peabody Estate, Herbrand Street, London WC1.

I WOULD LIKE to exchange metal football badges with collectors all over the world. I can write in English, French, Spanish and Italian. My address: 75 Fleet Street, Marsa Mifsud, Gzira, Malta.

I AM a collector of footballers' autographs of nearly 1,000 and would like to exchange some with other collectors in places like England, Brazil, Argentina, Holland and West Germany. My address is: James Murphy, 3 Dunsink Green, Finglas West, Dublin 11, Ireland.

CLUB METAL BADGES for sale. Collection of 1,400 different genuine club and F.A. badges from 75 countries all over the world selling in one lot. Offers and S.A.E. please. Write to Holland, 1 Hallastone Road, Helsby, via Warrington WA6 0QR or phone Helsby 3220.

INTERNATIONAL football badge and pennant collector would like to exchange with collectors in Italy, West Germany, Scandinavia and South America. Alan Allcock, 12 Trafalgar Square, Long Eaton, Nottingham NG10 1GD, England.

FOR SALE. Goal, Shoot, Jimmy Hill's Football Weekly and other magazines. S.A.E. for lists. R. Davies, 3A George Street, Cwmcarn, Nr. Cross Keys, Gwent NP1 7ES.

AMERICAN soccer fan would like to correspond and trade souvenirs with fans from any of the following countries: Holland, Scotland, Italy, Spain, France and Mexico. I have a fair knowledge of Spanish, German and French as well as English. Bruce Lindsey, 609 Walnut Street, Roaring Spring PA 16673, USA. All letters answered.

PENFRIENDS. I am a 13-year-old English girl, and would like to correspond with supporters of Liverpool, New York Cosmos and Bayern Munich (anywhere in the world). My name is Sharon Allman. My address is: 118 Trevithick Drive, Temple Hill, Dartford, Kent KA1 5LJ. (All letters replied to).

WANTED: Items from Scandinavia, Asia, Central and South America, Africa. Will exchange or purchase cloth emblems, lapel badges, pennants, programmes and pictures. Will trade items from all major sports in USA for football items. Pen pals welcomed. Steven D. Rospopo, 13422 Min. Vu. NE Albuquerque, New Mexico 87123, USA (505) 299-4601.

32-YEAR-OLD soccer fan from New York would like to correspond with any soccer fan around the world and exchange soccer souvenirs. Harry Weisz, P.O. Box 1800, Brooklyn, NY 11201, USA.

PEN PALS wanted in W. Germany, Holland, Sweden, Denmark, Spain, Italy, France, E. Germany and from any Eastern European countries. Females 17-21, all letters will replied to. My address is as follows: Ithicar Sheriff, 15 Garden Crescent, West Hoe, Plymouth, England. I speak English only.

WANTED: any pre August 1977 editions of World Soccer, will pay good prices. Write or phone. Luigi Marabese, 21 Cherry Trees, Bedford Road, Henlowcamp, Beds. Phone: Hitchin 813645.

I REQUIRE 12 Goal binders, can anybody help? I will pay sensible prices for odd or full sets of binders. Graham Hannah, 858 Tong Road, Leeds 12, England.

WANTED: Soccer programmes. I require Colchester United and N. American programmes. For each N.A.S.L. soccer programme sent to me in mint condition, I will send three English League programmes in return. Mark R. Chamley, Greenhouse Farm, Pebmarsh, Halstead, Essex CO9 2NR.

LARGE number of programmes for sale including many special offers. Please contact M. Solomon, 102 Sinclair Avenue, Glasgow, G42 9PU.

I AM a 15-year-old Spurs fan living in the North-East, seeking a Sunderland mad pen pal, living in North London area who would swap newspaper cuttings, programmes, info and souvenirs. Please write to: Garry Smith, 4 High Moor Place, Parkway Estate, South Shields, Tyne & Wear.

COLLECTOR seeks books or statistic books about Northern Ireland and Eire football. He also wants autographs, signed photos of English and European footballers. All prices should be named. Graham Hannah, 858 Tong Road, Leeds 12, England.

14-YEAR-OLD boy would like to correspond with supporters of the following clubs: Manchester United, Barcelona, Valencia, Juventus, Hamburger SV, Borussia Mönchengladbach, St Etienne and Celtic. Will exchange N.A.S.L. souvenirs eg pennants, badges, pictures, etc. Karth Marland, 4204 Boxer Street, Burnaby, BC, Canada V5J 2U9.

WANTED: These boy's annuals, Tiger '78, '77, '73 '72; Scorcher '78 and Shoot '79, '74, '73, '72, '71, '70 and any quiz books etc from them. All prices to be named. G. Hannah, 858 Tong Road, Leeds 12, England.

I AM a 16-year-old boy who would like to correspond with soccer fans in the U.S.A. and Canada. My favourite teams are Liverpool, Sheffield United, Dundee, Aston Villa, Rochester Lancers, Toronto Blizzard, New England Teamen, Minesota Kickers and Portland Timbers. Also in the A.S.L. New Jersey. Steven Bromley, 90 Burnside, North Seaton, Ashington, Northumberland, England.

I WOULD like to correspond with collectors from all over the world in English or French. My hobbies are sports books, magazines and programmes and stamps, sports statistics (soccer). I am 23 years old. Gajić Ljubiša, D. Majur — Kruševački put 17, 35000 Svetozarevo, Jugoslavija.

FOR SALE: 200 issues of Soccer Star, most in good condition. They are volumes 14-19. These are for sale or will exchange for World Soccer, Shoot or Tigers before 1975. Graham Hannah, 858 Tong Road, Leeds 12, England.

Classified results

SOUTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP
(Copa America)
Group 1
August 1

VENEZUELA 0
COLOMBIA 0

August 8

VENEZUELA (0) 1 (Carvajal)
CHILE (0) 1 (Veliz)

Venezuela: Vega, Contreras, Castron, Vidal, Campos, Sanchez, Mendoza, Paez, Carvajal, Hernandez (Castillo), Peña (Svantana).

Chile: Osben, Gonzalez, Soto, Valenzuela, Escobar, Rivas (Quiroz), Dubo, Neira, Yanez, Peredo, Veliz. (Referee: Cesar Pagano, Peru).

August 15

COLOMBIA 1
CHILE 0

Group 1 standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Colombia	2	1	1	0	1	0	3
Venezuela	2	0	2	0	1	1	2
Chile	2	0	1	1	1	2	1

Group 2
July 26

BOLIVIA (1) 2 (Aragones 2)
BRAZIL (1) 1 (Roberto pen.)

Bolivia: Gimenez, Vargas, Vaca, Espinoza, del LLano, Angulo (Valdivieso), Romero (Paniagua), Aragones, Borja, Reinaldo, Aguilar.

Brazil: Leao, Junior, Oscar, Amaral, Pedrinho, Batista, Carpegiani, Renato (Zenon), Milton Batata, Roberto, Ze Sergio (Joari). (Referee: Orlando Sanchez, Colombia).

August 2

BRAZIL (1) 2 (Zico, Tita)
ARGENTINA (1) 1 (Coscia)

Brazil: Leao, Toninho, Amaral, Edinho, Pedrinho, Carpeggiani, Zonón (Batista), Zico, Tita, Palhinha (Suari), Ze Sergio.

Argentina: Vidallé, Barbas, Van Tuyne, Passarella, Bordon, Gaspari, Larraquay, Gaitan (C. Lopez), Coscia, Maradona, Roberto Diaz (Castro). (Referee: Edison Perez, Peru).

August 8

ARGENTINA (2) 3 (Passarella, Gaspari, Maradona)
BOLIVIA 0

Argentina: Vidallé, Saporti, Van Tuyne, Passarella, Bordon, Gaspari, Larraquay (Barbas), Maradona, Coscia, Fortunato, Roberto Diaz.

Bolivia: Hoyos, Vargas, Vaca, Del Llano, Espinoza, Angulo, Borja, Romero, Reynaldo. (Mezza), Aragones, Aguilar. (Sent off 89m. Angulo). (Referee: Sergio Vazquez, Chile).

August 16

BRAZIL (0) 2 (Tita, Zico)
BOLIVIA 0

Brazil: Leao, Toninho, Amaral, Toninho, Junior, Batista, Zenon (Paulinha), Zico, Nilton Batata (Tita), Socrates, Ze Sergio.

Bolivia: Gimenez, Vargas, Vaca (Delfim), Espinoza, Del Llano, Romero, Gonzalez, Aragones, Borja, Reynaldo, Aguilar. (Referee: Jose Vergara, Venezuela).

August 23

ARGENTINA (1) 2 (Passarella, Diaz)
BRAZIL (1) 2 (Socrates 2, 1 pen.)

Argentina: Vidallé, Ocaño, Van Tûyne, Passarella, Bordon, Gaspari, Gallego, Bochini, Coscia (Valencia), Fortunato (Castro), Roberto Diaz.

Brazil: Leao, Toninho, Amaral, Edinho, Junior, Carpegiani (Falcao), Batista, Zico, Tita, Socrates, Ze Sergio. (Referee: Roque Cerullo, Uruguay).

Final group 2 standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brazil	**4**	**2**	**1**	**1**	**7**	**5**	**5**
Bolivia	4	2	0	2	4	7	4
Argentina	4	1	1	2	7	6	3

FULL INTERNATIONALS
July 14

PERU 2
ECUADOR 1

July 18

URUGUAY 2
CHILE 1
(Pinto Duran Cup 2nd leg — aggregate score 2-2 — will meet again home and away).

PERU 0
COLOMBIA (1) 1 (Willington Ortiz)

August 2

PARAGUAY 2
BOLIVIA 0
(Paz del Chaco Cup 2nd leg — aggregate score 3-3 — Bolivia won on penalties 3-2)

Paraguay: Baez, Solalinde, Paredes, Cibils, Schettina, Escobar, Florentin (Fanego), Morel (Colman), Perez (Rojas), Meza, Fleitas.

Bolivia: Jimenez, Bargas, Espinoza, Garrido, Del Llano, Romero, Gonzalez, O. Meza (Paniagua), Borja, Reynaldo, Rojas.

CHILE: First Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Colo Colo (x)	**17**	**10**	**5**	**2**	**33**	**12**	**25**
Coquimbo	**17**	**9**	**6**	**2**	**31**	**18**	**24**
Universidad de Chile (x)	**18**	**9**	**4**	**5**	**21**	**12**	**24**
Union Española (x)	**17**	**11**	**1**	**5**	**25**	**14**	**24**
O'Higgins	**17**	**10**	**3**	**4**	**27**	**16**	**23**
Green Cross	**18**	**9**	**5**	**4**	**27**	**20**	**23**
Cobreloa (x)	**17**	**8**	**4**	**5**	**26**	**17**	**21**
Lota-Schwager	**18**	**5**	**7**	**6**	**16**	**26**	**17**
Palestino	**17**	**5**	**7**	**5**	**28**	**27**	**17**
Naval	**18**	**5**	**7**	**6**	**25**	**30**	**17**
Audax Italiano	**17**	**7**	**3**	**7**	**35**	**35**	**17**
Everton	**18**	**5**	**5**	**8**	**31**	**37**	**15**
Concepción	**18**	**5**	**4**	**9**	**25**	**31**	**14**
Aviacion	**18**	**4**	**6**	**8**	**16**	**21**	**14**
Universidad Catolica	**17**	**3**	**7**	**7**	**22**	**20**	**13**
Nublense	**18**	**4**	**2**	**12**	**18**	**36**	**10**
Wanderers	**17**	**3**	**4**	**10**	**19**	**28**	**10**
Santiago Morning	**17**	**4**	**2**	**11**	**13**	**43**	**10**

PERU: National Championship

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Universitario	21	11	7	3	29	13	29
Juan Aurich	21	10	8	3	22	17	28
Alianza Lima	21	9	6	6	40	17	24
Deportiva Municipal	21	9	5	7	21	22	23
Sporting Cristal	21	8	10	5	32	21	22
Deportivo Junin	21	9	4	8	30	30	22
Leon de Huanuco	20	10	2	8	24	26	22
Alfonso Ugarte	21	9	4	8	29	34	22
Atletico Chalaco	21	6	8	7	16	20	20
Union Huaral	21	5	10	6	24	25	20
Coronel Bolognesi	20	6	3	9	22	25	19
Sport Boys	21	7	3	9	23	23	19
Colegio Nac. Iquitos	21	7	4	7	22	37	18
Juventud La Palma	21	5	7	9	17	23	17
Atletico Torino	21	5	7	9	16	24	17
Melgar	21	3	5	13	17	33	11

COLOMBIA: Closing Championship

Group A	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
America de Cali	6	5	1	0	14	2	11
Magdalena	6	3	2	1	5	5	8
Dep. Cali	6	4	0	2	10	4	8
Atletico Junior	6	3	1	2	9	8	7
Caldas	6	2	1	3	11	9	5
Millionarios	6	1	2	3	5	6	4
Medellin	6	1	1	4	4	11	3

Group B	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Pereira	6	3	2	1	14	13	8
Nacional	6	1	5	0	7	5	7
Bucaramanga	6	2	2	2	6	11	6
Santa Fe	6	1	4	1	13	10	6
Cucuta	6	1	3	2	4	5	5
Quindio	6	1	1	4	5	8	3
Tolima	6	0	3	3	7	17	3

VENEZUELA: Professional League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Estudiantes de Merida	12	10	0	2	20	7	20
Tachira	12	7	3	2	19	8	17
Portuguesa	12	4	7	1	12	6	15
Zamora	12	5	4	3	13	9	14
Galicia	12	3	7	2	10	8	13
Italia	12	4	5	3	15	12	13
Universidad Los Andes	12	4	4	4	18	11	12
Lara	12	5	1	6	14	16	11
Portugues	12	4	3	5	15	20	11
Valencia	12	3	3	6	10	16	9
Miranda	12	1	5	6	8	20	7
Falcon	12	0	2	10	8	28	2

PARAGUAY: First Division
((after 15 games)

1. Olimpia 22 pts; 2. Libertad 20; 3. Guarani 17; 4. Tembetary, Sol de America 15; 6. Sportivo Luqueño, Rubio Nu14; Cerro Porteño 12; 9. Capitan Figari, River Plate 11.

ECUADOR: Closing Championship
(after three games)

Division A: 1. Emelec (Guayaquil) 6 pts; 2. Barcelona (Guayaquil), Deportivo Cuenca, Universidad Catolica (Quito) 4; 5. Liga Deportiva Universitaria (Quito) 3; 6. Tecnico Universitario (Ambato), America (Quito), Manta, Deportivo Quito 2; 10. Aucas (Quito) 1. **Division B** (leaders): 1. Liga Deportiva Universitaria (Cuenca), Universidad Tecnica (Manabi) 6 pts.

CHAMPIONS' CUP
Preliminary round — first leg

Dundalk (RI) 1 (Devine 80)
Linfield (NI) 1 (Feeny 48)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 11,000. **Ref.** Partridge (Eng.). Aug. 29.

Dundalk: Blackmore — McConville, Dunning, Keely, Martin Lawlor, Flanagan, Mick Lawlor, Byrne, Daly, Muckian, Carlyle (Devine).

Linfield: Dunlop — Garrett, Rafferty, Dornan, Hayes, Jameson, McKeown, Nixon (Kock), McCurdy, McKee, Feeny.

Sectarian fighting which broke out — predictably — meant the game ended with more than 100 people hurt, including 12 policemen, with more than a dozen arrests. Both sides were full of praise afterwards for the way referee Pat Partridge managed to keep the game going, but that didn't prevent UEFA slapping an immediate two-match ban on Linfield.

Stone-throwing began 10 minutes before the match and rioting spilled on to the running track at half-time.

There was nothing in the game to enrage the fans. Linfield's McKee and Dundalk's Daly were booked but Linfield did well after a late reshuffle forced by the training injury of Frank Parks. Warren Feeney put them ahead from McKee's pass and it wasn't until 10 mminutes from time that substitute Liam Devine headed Dundalk's equaliser from Paddy Dunning's cross.

Preliminary round — second leg

Linfield 0
Dundalk 2 (Muckian 14 and 83)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 1,000. **Ref:** Beck (Hol .). Played Sept. 5, Haarlem.
Dundalk win 3-1 on agg.

Linfield: Dunlop — Garrett, Hayes, Jameson, Rafferty, Dornan (Parks 46), Nixon, McKeown, McCurdy, McKee, Feeney.

Dundalk: Blackmore — McConville, Martin, Lawlor, Kelly, Dunning, Flanagan, Daly (Dainty 63), Mick Lawlor, Carlyle, Byrne, Muckian.

Linfield's home ban meant the necessary switch of the game to Haarlem, who volunteered as a friendly gesture because of youth ties. Yet though Linfield's players were confident enough beforehand, the deadly, if polite, atmosphere drained all their cohesion.

Cathal Muchian's two goals brough Dundalk easy victory, though Linfield's Warren Feeney hit a post with a inswinging corner, and also blasted a penalty over the bar.

It was poor Feeney's third penalty blunder of the season — and that from a man who has converted not far short of 50 spot kicks in his career!

CUP-WINNERS' CUP
Preliminary round — first legs

BK1903 Copenhagen 6 (Haarby 4, Larsen 28, Kristiansen 58, 68, Thygesen 74, 87)
Apoel Nicosia 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 3,200. **Ref.** R. Ericsson (Swe). Aug. 15.

Rangers 1 (Smith 12)
Lillestrom 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 20,000. **Ref:** Beck (Hol). Aug. 21.

● Continued on page 50

EURO HISTORY

WORLD SOCCER EXCLUSIVE FEATURE

KEIR RADNEDGE continues his series on the important dates and details, facts and fixtures, of European football.

HUNGARY

The great days of Hungarian soccer lie very firmly in the past.

The World Cup runners-up placings of 1938 and 1954, the pre- and post-war eras when Hungary were among the most feared of football nations . . .

Not much sign of a return to those days.

The period under review here traces the decline. In the 1962 World Cup Finals the Hungarians — coached of course by Lajos Baroti — had reached the quarter finals, and then did so again in 1966 in England.

After that they were missing from Finals until last summer in Argentina and then, with the characterless collapse, after the first-match expulsions of Nyilasi and Torocsik, they made no impression.

It's almost forgotten that in both 1964 and 1972 they finished third in the European championship — almost forgotten too is that glorious victory over Brazil in the 1966 World Cup, a triumph made so startling by the brilliant Janos Farkas goal, as he struck the ball home first time on the run after Ferenc Bene's cross.

The future hardly promises similar excitement. The one striker whose brilliance has enlivened a dull pedestrian attack — Andras Torocsik — is recovering from car crash injuries, and in Karoly Lakat the Hungarians have a third team manager in 18 months following the retirement of Baroti and dismissal of Ferenc Kovacs.

Lakat has a successful track record however with the Olympic side, so maybe he is the right man for the job — at last.

1962	June 24	Austria	L	1-2	Vienna	
	Sep 2	Poland	W	2-0	Poznan	
	Oct 14	Yugoslavia	L	0-1	Budapest	
	Oct 28	Austria	W	2-0	Budapest	
	Nov 7	Wales	W	3-1	Budapest	EC
	Nov 11	France	W	3-2	Paris	
1963	Mar 20	Wales	D	1-1	Cardiff	EC
	May 5	Sweden	L	1-2	Stockholm	
	May 19	Denmark	W	6-0	Budapest	
	Jun 2	Czechoslovakia	D	2-2	Prague	
	Sep 21	Russia	D	1-1	Moscow	
	Oct 6	Yugoslavia	L	0-2	Belgrade	
	Oct 19	E. Germany	W	2-1	E. Berlin	EC
	Oct 27	Austria	W	2-1	Budapest	
	Nov 3	E. Germany	D	3-3	Budapest	EC
1964	Apr 25	France	W	3-1	Paris	EC
	May 3	Austria	L	0-1	Vienna	
	May 23	France	W	2-1	Budapest	EC
	June 17	Spain	L	1-2	Spain	EC
					Jet	semi
	June 20	Denmark	W	3-1	Barcelona	EC
						3rd
	Oct 4	Switzerland	W	2-0	Berne	
	Oct 11	Czechoslovakia	D	2-2	Budapest	
	Oct 25	Yugoslavia	W	2-1	Budapest	
1965	May 5	England	L	0-1	Wembley	
	May 23	E. Germany	D	1-1	Leipzig	WC
	June 13	Austria	W	1-0	Vienna	WC
	Jun 27	Italy	W	2-1	Budapest	
	Sep 5	Austria	W	3-0	Budapest	WC
	Oct 9	E. Germany	W	3-2	Budapest	WC
1966	May 3	Poland	D	1-1	Chorzow	
	May 8	Yugoslavia	L	0-2	Zagreb	
	Jun 5	Switzerland	W	3-1	Budapest	
	Jul 13	Portugal	L	1-3	Old Trafford	WCF
	Jul 15	Brazil	W	3-1	Goodison	WCF
	Jul 20	Bulgaria	W	3-1	Old Trafford	WCF
	Jul 23	Russia	L	1-2	Sunderland	WCF
	Sep 7	Holland	D	2-2	Rotterdam	EC
	Sep 21	Denmark	W	6-0	Budapest	EC
	Sep 28	France	W	4-2	Budapest	
	Oct 30	Austria	W	3-1	Budapest	
1967	Apr 23	Yugoslavia	W	1-0	Budapest	
	May 10	Holland	W	2-1	Budapest	EC
	May 24	Denmark	W	2-0	Copenhagen	EC
	Sep 6	Austria	W	3-1	Vienna	
	Sep 27	E. Germany	W	3-1	Budapest	EC
	Oct 29	E. Germany	L	0-1	Leipzig	EC
1968	May 4	Russia	W	2-0	Budapest	EC
	May 11	Russia	L	0-3	Moscow	EC
1969	May 25	Czechoslovakia	W	2-0	Budapest	WC
	June 8	Rep. Ireland	W	2-1	Dublin	WC
	June 15	Denmark	L	2-3	Copenhagen	WC
	Sep 14	Czechoslovakia	D	3-3	Prague	WC
	Sep 24	Sweden	L	0-2	Stockholm	
	Oct 22	Denmark	W	3-0	Budapest	WC
	Nov 5	Rep. Ireland	W	4-0	Budapest	WC
	Dec 3	Czechoslovakia	L	1-4	Marseille	WCpla
1970	Apr 2	Yugoslavia	D	2-2	Belgrade	
	May 2	Poland	W	2-0	Budapest	
	May 16	Sweden	L	1-2	Budapest	
	Sep 9	W. Germany	L	1-3	Nuremburg	
	Sep 27	Austria	D	1-1	Budapest	
	Oct 7	Norway	W	3-1	Oslo	EC
	Nov 15	Switzerland	W	1-0	Basel	
1971	Apr 4	Austria	W	2-3	Vienna	
	Apr 24	France	D	1-1	Budapest	EC
	May 19	Bulgaria	L	1-3	Sofia	EC
	Jul 22	Brazil	D	0-0	Rio de Janeiro	
	Sep 1	Yugoslavia	W	2-1	Budapest	
	Sep 25	Bulgaria	W	2-0	Budapest	EC
	Oct 9	France	W	2-0	Paris	EC
	Oct 27	Norway	W	4-0	Budapest	EC
	Nov 14	Malta	W	2-0	Valletta	
1972	Jun 12	Spain	L	0-1	Madrid	
	Mar 29	W. Germany	L	0-2	Budapest	
	Apr 29	Rumania	D	1-1	Budapest	EC
	May 6	Malta	W	3-0	Budapest	
	May 14	Rumania	D	2-2	Bucharest	EC
	May 17	Rumania	W	2-1	Belgrade	ECpla
	May 25	Sweden	D	0-0	Stockholm	
	Jun 14	Russia	L	0-1	Brussels	EC
						semi
	Jun 17	Belgium	L	1-2	Liege	EC
						3rd
	Oct 15	Austria	D	2-2	Vienna	WC
1973	Apr 29	Austria	D	2-2	Budapest	WC
	May 16	E. Germany	L	1-2	Karl-Marx-Stadt	
	Jun 13	Sweden	D	3-3	Budapest	WC
	Sep 26	Yugoslavia	D	1-1	Belgrade	
	Oct 13	Denmark	D	2-2	Copenhagen	
	Nov 21	E. Germany	L	0-1	Budapest	
1974	Mar 31	Bulgaria	W	3-1	Zalaegerszeg	
	Apr 17	W. Germany	L	0-5	Dortmund	
	May 29	Yugoslavia	W	3-2	Szekesfehervar	
	Sep 28	Austria	L	0-1	Vienna	
	Oct 13	Luxembourg	W	4-2	Luxembourg	EC
	Oct 26	Canada	D	1-1	Budapest	
	Oct 30	Wales	L	0-2	Cardiff	EC
	Nov 10	Bulgaria	D	0-0	Varna	
	Dec 4	Switzerland	W	1-0	Szolnok	
1975	Mar 26	France	L	0-2	Paris	
	Apr 2	Austria	D	0-0	Vienna	EC
	Apr 16	Wales	L	1-2	Budapest	EC
	Aug 10	Iran	W	2-1	Teheran	
	Sep 24	Austria	W	2-1	Budapest	EC
	Oct 8	Poland	L	2-4	Lodz	
	Oct 15	Czechoslovakia	D	1-1	Prague	
	Oct 19	Luxembourg	W	8-1	Szombathely	
1976	Feb 4	Mexico	L	1-4	Mexico City	
	Mar 27	Argentina	W	2-0	Budapest	
	Apr 17	Yugoslavia	D	0-0	Banjaluka	
	May 1	Switzerland	W	1-0	Lausanne	
	May 22	France	W	1-0	Budapest	
	May 26	Russia	D	1-1	Budapest	
	Jun 12	Austria	W	2-0	Budapest	
	Sep 8	Sweden	D	1-1	Solna	
	Sep 22	E. Germany	D	1-1	E. Berlin	
	Oct 9	Greece	D	1-1	Athens	WC
	Oct 13	Austria	W	4-2	Vienna	
1977	Feb 7	Ecuador	L	0-1	Quito	
	Feb 9	Peru	L	2-3	Lima	
	Feb 22	Mexico	D	1-1	Puebla	
	Feb 27	Argentina	L	1-5	Buenos Aires	
	Mar 15	Iran	W	2-0	Teheran	
	Mar 27	Spain	D	1-1	Alicante	
	Apr 13	Poland	W	2-1	Budapest	
	Apr 20	Czechoslovakia	W	2-0	Budapest	
	Apr 30	Russia	W	2-1	Budapest	WC
	May 18	Russia	L	0-2	Tbilisi	WC
	May 28	Greece	W	3-0	Budapest	WC
	Oct 5	Yugoslavia	W	4-3	Budapest	
	Oct 12	Sweden	W	3-0	Budapest	
	Oct 29	Bolivia	W	6-0	Budapest	WC
	Nov 9	Czechoslovakia	D	1-1	Prague	
	Nov 30	Bolivia	W	3-2	La Paz	WC
1978	Apr 15	Czechoslovakia	W	2-1	Budapest	
	May	Tunisia	D	2-2		
	May 23	England	L	1-4	Wembley	
	Jun 2	Argentina	L	0-2	Buenos Aires	WCF
	Jun 6	Italy	L	1-3	Mar del Plata	WCF
	Jun 10	France	L	1-3	Mar del Plata	WCF
	Sep 10	Finland	L	1-2	Helsinki	EC
	Oct 11	Russia	W	2-0	Budapest	EC
	Oct 25	Greece	L	1-4	Salonika	EC
	Nov 15	W. Germany	D	0-0	Frankfurt	
		(abandoned 60 mins. fog)				

	P	W	D	L	F	A
From 1962 to WC62	346	190	70	86	960	583
Since WC62	142	66	35	41	245	184
Total	488	256	105	127	1225	767

ICELAND

ONLY since 1972 have Iceland come out into the football world with any real self-belief.

Previously they'd appeared only once in the European championship and once in the World Cup qualifiers in the mid-1950s. But in the past seven years they have regularly, and bravely, enlisted along with all the giants.

The result, more often than not, has been defeat — sometimes heavy, as with the 8-1 thrashing by Holland in 1973. But over the past few years the Icelanders have established themselves as no easy team against whom to run up the goal aggregate.

And with European championship victories to their name over East Germany — just a year after their creditable showing in the 1974 World Cup Finals — and Northern Ireland, they have much to be proud about.

Several Icelandic players have made names for themselves, including Albert Gudmundsson in the early 1950s, later Thorolf Beck and now Ausgeir Sigurvinsson (Standard Liege), Johannes Edvaldsson (Celtic) and — perhaps the most promising — Petur Petursson (Feyenoord).

Much of the credit for the national team's development is due to English coach Tony Knapp, the ex-Leicester and Southampton centre-half. He was the man who introduced a taste of professional discipline to the amateur game in Iceland, before his departure a year ago for Viking Stavanger in Norway.

1962	Jul 9	Norway	L	1-3	Reykjavik	
	Aug 12	Rep. Ireland	L	2-4	Dublin	EC
	Sep 2	Rep. Ireland	D	1-1	Reykjavik	EC
1964	Aug 10	Bermuda	W	4-3	Reykjavik	
	Aug 23	Finland	L	0-2	Reykjavik	
1966	Jul 3	Denmark	L	1-3	Reykjavik	
1967	Aug 23	Denmark	L	2-14	Copenhagen	
1968	Jul 16	Norway	L	0-4	Reykjavik	
1969	Jun 25	Bermuda	W	2-1	Reykjavik	
	Jul 21	Norway	L	1-2	Trondheim	

	Jul 24	Finland	L	1-3	Helsingfors
	Nov 11	Bermuda	L	2-3	Hamilton
1970	Jul 7	Denmark	D	0-0	Reykjavik
	Jul 20	Norway	W	2-0	Reykjavik
1971	May 26	Norway	L	1-3	Bergen
	Aug 13	Japan	L	0-2	Reykjavik
1972	May 18	Belgium	L	0-4	Liege	WC
	May 22	Belgium	L	0-4	Bruges	WC
	Jul 3	Denmark	L	2-5	Reykjavik
	Aug 3	Norway	L	1-4	Stavanger	WC
1973	Jul 11	Sweden	L	0-1	Gothenburg
	Jul 17	E. Germany	L	1-2	Reykjavik
	Jul 19	E. Germany	L	0-2	Reykjavik
	Aug 2	Norway	L	0-4	Reykjavik	WC
	Aug 22	Holland	L	0-5	Amsterdam	WC
	Aug 29	Holland	L	1-6	Deventer	WC
1974	Aug 19	Finland	D	2-2	Reykjavik
	Sep 8	Belgium	L	0-2	Reykjavik	EC
	Oct 9	Denmark	L	1-2	Alborg
	Oct 12	E. Germany	D	1-1	Magdeburg	EC
1975	May 25	France	D*	0-0	Reykjavik	EC
	Jun 5	E. Germany	W	2-1	Reykjavik	EC
	Jul 7	Norway	D	1-1	Reykjavik
	Jul 17	Norway	L	2-3	Bergen
	Sep 3	France	L	0-3	Nantes	EC
	Sep 6	Belgium	L	0-1	Liege	EC
1976	May 19	Norway	W	1-0	Oslo
	Jul 14	Finland	L	0-1	Helsingfors
	Aug 21	Luxembourg	W	3-1	Reykjavik
	Sep 5	Belgium	L	0-1	Reykjavik	WC
	Sep 8	Holland	L	0-1	Reykjavik	WC
1977	Jun 11	N. Ireland	W	1-0	Reykjavik	WC
	Jul 30	Norway	W	2-1	Reykjavik
	Jul 20	Sweden	L	0-1	Reykjavik
	Aug 31	Holland	L	1-4	Nijmegen	WC
	Sep 3	Belgium	L	0-4	Brussels	WC
	Sep 21	N. Ireland	L	0-2	Belfast	WC
1978	Jul 26	Denmark	D	0-0	Reykjavik
	Sep 3	United States	D	0-0	Reykjavik
	Sep 6	Poland	L	0-2	Reykjavik	EC
	Sep 20	Holland	L	0-3	Nijmegen	EC
	Oct 4	E. Germany	L	1-3	Halle	EC

	P	W	D	L	F	A
From 1946 to WC62	25	5	1	19	31	87
Since WC62	52	8	8	36	43	127
Total	77	13	9	55	74	214

ITALY

ONE of the enduring greats of world football.

Twice winners of the World Cup — in 1934 and 1938 — and runners-up in 1970, they will always be feared opponents, whoever they play and whatever the turmoil inside Calcio.

Since 1962 they've gone through a series of recognisable phases, a pattern of ups and downs which has nevertheless never seriously diminished respect abroad for the capabilities of the Italain footballer.

Chile 1962 was a disaster. The Italians fell in the opening groups, matches which finally put the skids under the habit of thrusting South Americans into the *Azzurri* jerseys.

With the absence of the imports — only the Italo-Brazilian Angelo Sormani maintained a place for a year or so — a new pride gradually grew up around the national team.

Youngsters such as Giacinto Facchetti, Aristide Guneri, Mario Corso and Sandro Mazzola (all Internazionale), Gianni Rivera, Bruno Mora, Giovanni Trapattoni (Milan) and Giacomo Bulgarelli (Bologna) put a smile back on the face of Calcio ... until the North Korea disaster in the 1966 World Cup Finals.

That 1-0 defeat at Middlesbrough virtually ended the career of manager Edmondo Fabbri — proof that Italy never make the World Cup easy for themselves. In 1970 they diluted their strength by the turn-and-turn-about *staffatta* between Mazzola and Rivera; in 1974 internal squabbles upset team spirit; in 1978 sheer lack of basic self-confidence, once they had marched into the second round, meant Italy finished only fourth when they might have stepped within a breath of the Cup itself.

Fortunately Enzo Bearzot continues as manager, fairly secure ... at least until after the European championship finals next summer. That's when the ex-Inter and Torino wing-half must prove a winner.

1962	Nov 11	Austria	W	2-1	Vienna
	Dec 2	Turkey	W	6-0	Bologna	EC
1963	Mar 27	Turkey	W	1-0	Istanbul	EC
	May 12	Brazil	W	3-0	Milan
	Jun 9	Austria	W	1-0	Vienna
	Oct 13	Russia	L	0-2	Moscow	EC
	Nov 10	Russia	D	1-1	Rome	EC
	Dec 14	Austria	W	1-0	Turin
1964	Apr 11	Czechoslovakia	D	0-0	Florence
	May 10	Switzerland	W	3-1	Lausanne
	Nov 4	Finland	W	6-1	Genoa	WC
	Dec 5	Denmark	W	3-1	Bologna
1965	Mar 13	W. Germany	D	1-1	Hamburg
	Apr 18	Poland	D	0-0	Warsaw	WC
	May 1	Wales	W	4-1	Florence
	Jun 16	Sweden	D	2-2	Malmo
	Jun 23	Finland	W	2-0	Helsinki	WC
	Jun 27	Hungary	L	1-2	Budapest
	Nov 1	Poland	W	6-1	Rome	WC
	Nov 9	Scotland	L	0-1	Glasgow Celtic	WC
	Dec 7	Scotland	W	3-0	Naples	WC
1966	Mar 19	France	D	0-0	Paris
	Jun 14	Bulgaria	W	6-1	Bologna
	Jun 18	Austria	W	1-0	Milan
	Jun 22	Argentina	W	3-0	Turin
	Jun 29	Mexico	W	5-0	Florence
	Jul 13	Chile	W	2-0	Sunderland	WCF
	Jul 16	Russia	L	0-1	Sunderland	WCF
	Jul 19	N. Korea	L	0-1	Middlesbrough	WCF
	Nov 1	Russia	W	1-0	Milan
	Nov 26	Rumania	W	3-1	Naples	EC
1967	Mar 22	Cyprus	W	2-0	Nicosia	EC
	Mar 27	Portugal	D	1-1	Rome	EC
	Jun 25	Rumania	W	1-0	Bucharest	EC
	Nov 1	Cyprus	W	5-0	Cesenica	EC
	Nov 18	Switzerland	D	2-2	Berne	EC
	Dec 23	Switzerland	W	4-0	Cagliari	EC
1968	Apr 6	Bulgaria	L	2-3	Sofia	EC
	Apr 20	Bulgaria	W	2-0	Naples	EC
	June 5	Russia	D	0-0	Naples	EC
				aet		semi
		(Italy won on toss of coin)				
	Jun 8	Yugoslavia	D	1-1	Rome	EC
				aet		fi
	Jun 10	Yugoslavia	W	2-0	Rome	EC
						Fr rp
	Oct 23	Wales	W	1-0	Cardiff	WC
1969	Jan 1	Mexico	W	3-2	Mexico City
	Jan 5	Mexico	D	1-1	Mexico City
	Mar 29	E. Germany	D	2-2	E. Berlin	WC
	May 24	Bulgaria	D	0-0	Turin
	Nov 4	Wales	W	4-1	Rome	WC
	Nov 23	E. Germany	W	3-0	Naples	WC
1970	Feb 21	Spain	D	2-2	Madrid
	May 19	Portugal	W	2-1	Lisbon
	Jun 3	Sweden	W	1-0	Toluca	WCF
	Jun 6	Uruguay	D	0-0	Puebla	WCF
	Jun 11	Israel	D	0-0	Toluca	WCF
	Jun 14	Mexico	W	4-1	Toluca	WCF
						qf
	Jun 17	W. Germany	W	4-3	Mexico City	WCF
				aet		semi
	Jun 21	Brazil	L	1-4	Mexico City	WC Fi
	Oct 17	Switzerland	D	1-1	Berne
	Oct 31	Austria	W	2-1	Vienna	EC
	Dec 8	Rep. Ireland	W	3-0	Florence	EC
1971	Feb 20	Spain	L	1-2	Cagliari
	May 10	Rep. Ireland	W	2-1	Dublin	EC
	Jun 9	Sweden	D	0-0	Stockholm	EC
	Sep 25	Mexico	W	2-0	Genoa
	Oct 9	Sweden	W	3-0	Milan	EC
	Nov 20	Austria	D	2-2	Rome	EC
1972	Mar 4	Greece	L	1-2	Athens
	Apr 29	Belgium	D	0-0	Milan	EC
	May 13	Belgium	L	1-2	Brussels	EC
	Jun 17	Rumania	D	3-3	Bucharest
	Jun 21	Bulgaria	D	1-1	Sofia
	Sep 20	Yugoslavia	W	3-1	Turin
	Oct 7	Luxembourg	W	4-0	Luxembourg	WC
	Oct 21	Switzerland	D	0-0	Berne	WC
1973	Jan 13	Turkey	D	0-0	Naples	WC
	Feb 25	Turkey	W	1-0	Istanbul	WC
	Mar 31	Luxembourg	W	5-0	Genoa	WC
	Jun 9	Brazil	W	2-0	Rome
	Jun 14	England	W	2-0	Turin
	Sep 29	Sweden	W	2-0	Milan
	Oct 20	Switzerland	W	2-0	Rome	WC
	Nov 14	England	W	1-0	Wembley
1974	Feb 28	W. Germany	D	0-0	Rome
	Jun 8	Austria	D	0-0	Vienna
	Jun 15	Haiti	W	3-1	Munich	WCF
	Jun 19	Argentina	D	1-1	Stuttgart	WCF
	Jun 23	Poland	L	1-2	Stuttgart	WCF
	Sep 28	Yugoslavia	L	0-1	Zagreb
	Nov 20	Holland	L	1-3	Rotterdam	EC
	Dec 29	Bulgaria	D	0-0	Genoa
1975	Apr 19	Poland	D	0-0	Rome	EC
	Jun 5	Finland	W	1-0	Helsinki	EC
	Jun 8	Russia	L	0-1	Moscow
	Sep 27	Finland	D	0-0	Rome	EC
	Oct 28	Poland	D	0-0	Warsaw	EC
	Nov 22	Holland	W	1-0	Rome	EC
	Dec 30	Greece	W	3-2	Florence
1976	Apr 7	Portugal	W	3-1	Turin
	May 23	US XI	W	4-0	Washington
	May 28	England	L	2-3	New York
	May 31	Brazil	L	1-4	New Haven
	Jun 5	Rumania	W	4-2	Milan
	Sep 22	Denmark	W	1-0	Copenhagen
	Sep 25	Yugoslavia	W	3-0	Rome
	Oct 16	Luxembourg	W	4-1	Luxembourg	WC
	Nov 17	England	W	2-0	Rome	WC
	Dec 22	Portugal	L	1-2	Lisbon
1977	Jan 26	Belgium	W	2-1	Rome
	Jun 8	Finland	W	3-0	Helsinki	WC
	Oct 8	W. Germany	L	1-2	W. Berlin
	Oct 15	Finland	W	6-1	Turin	WC
	Nov 16	England	L	0-2	Wembley	WC
	Dec 3	Luxembourg	W	3-0	Rome	WC
	Dec 21	Belgium	W	1-0	Liege
1978	Jan 25	Spain	L	1-2	Madrid
	Feb 8	France	D	2-2	Naples
	May 18	Yugoslavia	D	0-0	Rome
	Jun 2	France	W	2-1	Mar del Plata	WCF
	Jun 6	Hungary	W	3-1	Mar del Plata	WCF
	Jun 10	Argentina	W	1-0	Buenos Aires	WCF
	Jun 14	W. Germany	D	0-0	Buenos Aires	WCF
	Jun 18	Austria	W	1-0	Buenos Aires	WCF
	Jun 21	Holland	L	1-2	Buenos Aires	WCF
	Jun 24	Brazil	L	1-2	Buenos Aires	WCF
						3rd
	Sep 20	Bulgaria	W	1-0	Turin
	Sep 23	Turkey	W	1-0	Florence
	Nov 8	Czechoslovakia	L	0-3	Bratislava
	Dec 21	Spain	W	1-0	Rome

	P	W	D	L	F	A
From 1910 to WC62	222	115	51	56	464	333
Since WC62 (to 1978)	128	71	34	23	223	102
Total	350	186	85	79	687	435

LUXEMBOURG

A RUN of 15 successive defeats between 1974 and the end of last year underlines the plight of Luxembourg.

Some 101 internationals at full senior level, and they have yet to push the total of wins into double figures — it's a frightening record.

The statistics grow even more gruesome if we recall that in the period under review here they have won only three times in 15 years and nearly 60 games.

Why have Luxembourg been pushed below Iceland in the minnows stakes? The answer probably lies in geography. While a visit to Iceland involves climatic change for other European teams, the likes of Belgium, Holland and France look upon Luxembourg as home from home.

Louis Pilot, the one-time Standard Liege star, has had his contract as national manager extended one more year, but Luxembourg bosses don't last long — and the previous man in charge, Gilbert Legrand, died in the job!

1962	—				
1963	Sep 11	Holland	D	1-1	Amsterdam	EC
	Oct 30	Holland	W	2-1	Rotterdam	EC
	Dec 4	Denmark	D	3-3	Luxembourg	EC
	Dec 10	Denmark	D	2-2	Copenhagen	EC
	Dec 18	Denmark	L	0-1	Amsterdam	EC p/o
1964	Sep 20	Yugoslavia	L	1-3	Belgrade	WC
	Oct 4	France	L	0-2	Luxembourg	WC
	Nov 8	Norway	L	0-2	Luxembourg	WC
1965	May 27	Norway	L	2-4	Trondheim	WC
	Sep 19	Yugoslavia	L	2-5	Luxembourg	WC
	Nov 6	France	L	1-4	Marseille	WC
1966	Oct 2	Poland	L	0-4	Szczecin	EC
	Nov 26	France	L	0-3	Luxembourg	EC
1967	Mar 19	Belgium	L	0-5	Luxembourg	EC
	Apr 19	Poland	D	0-0	Luxembourg	EC
	Nov 22	Belgium	L	0-3	Bruges	EC
	Dec 23	France	L	1-3	Paris	EC
1968	Sep 4	Holland	L	0-2	Rotterdam	WC
	Nov 20	Denmark	L	1-5	Copenhagen
1969	Mar 26	Holland	L	0-4	Rotterdam	WC
	Apr 20	Poland	L	1-8	Krakow	WC
	Apr 23	Bulgaria	L	1-2	Sofia	WC
	Oct 12	Poland	L	1-5	Luxembourg	WC
	Dec 7	Bulgaria	L	1-3	Luxembourg	WC
1970	May 9	Czechoslovakia	L	0-1	Luxembourg
	Oct 8	Yugoslavia	L	0-2	Luxembourg	EC
	Nov 15	E. Germany	L	0-5	Luxembourg	EC
1971	Feb 24	Holland	L	0-6	Rotterdam	EC
	Apr 24	E. Germany	L	1-2	Gera	EC
	May 19	Belgium	L	0-4	Luxembourg
	Oct 27	Yugoslavia	D	0-0	Titograd	EC
	Nov 7	Belgium	L	0-1	Verviers
	Nov 17	Holland	L	0-6	Eindhoven	EC
1972	Apr 26	Czechoslovakia	L	0-6	Plzen
	Oct 8	Italy	L	0-4	Luxembourg	WC
	Oct 22	Turkey	W	2-0	Esch-sur-Alz.	WC
	Dec 10	Turkey	L	0-3	Istanbul	WC
1973	Mar 31	Italy	L	0-5	Genoa	WC
	Apr 8	Switzerland	L	0-1	Luxembourg	WC
	Sept 26	Switzerland	L	0-1	Lucerne	WC
	Oct 7	Canada	L	0-2	Luxembourg
	Nov 4	Norway	W	2-1	Luxembourg
1974	Oct 13	Hungary	L	2-4	Luxembourg	EC
	Nov 20	Wales	L	0-5	Swansea	EC
1975	Mar 16	Austria	L	1-2	Luxembourg	WC
	May 1	Wales	L	1-3	Luxembourg	EC
	Oct 15	Austria	L	2-6	Vienna	EC
	Oct 19	Hungary	L	1-8	Szombathely	EC
1976	Aug 21	Iceland	L	1-3	Reykjavik
	Sep 22	Finland	L	1-7	Helsinki	WC
	Oct 16	Italy	L	1-4	Luxembourg	WC
1977	Mar 30	England	L	0-5	Wembley	WC
	May 26	Finland	L	0-1	Luxembourg	WC
	Oct 12	England	L	0-2	Luxembourg	WC
	Dec 3	Italy	L	0-3	Rome	WC
1978	Mar 22	Poland	L	1-3	Luxembourg
	Oct 7	France	L	1-3	Luxembourg	EC

	P	W	D	L	F	A
From 1911 to WC62	44	6	3	35	59	169
Since WC62	57	3	5	49	37	186
Total	101	9	8	84	96	375

INTERNATIONAL REVIEW

THE season's regular pattern has emerged.

First the warm-up friendlies, then the European championship ties. That's been the sequence for many of the countries with greatest hopes of a place in Italy next June.

But the August-September revival of internationals also brought the visit of world champions Argentina — albeit with virtually a B team — as well as Peru planning their defence of the South American championship.

It was a bad time for Sweden. With Georg Ericsson retiring at the end of the year — Lars Arnesson taking over — they lost a rugged match 2-0 in Oslo in the Scandinavian championship, then were beaten 3-1 at home by France in the European competition.

Not that it did all that much for France. Czechoslovakia remain favourites to go through from their group, though the Czechs will have to find their shooting boots — badly missed in their September defeat by Hungary — if they're to make a serious stab at defending their title once they get to Italy.

AUGUST 16

Oslo
Norway 2 (Larsen 60, Mathisen 86)
Sweden 0
HT: 00. **Att:** 16,400.

A flop for the Swedes, who used this Scandinavian championship game as preparation for their European championship tie with France. Neither Groenhagen nor Sigge Johanson in attack made any impression against the enthusiastic Norwegians. "It would have been different if Nordin's shot had gone in and not hit the bar," said manager Georg Ericsson, but most observers — even Swedish — felt he was whistling in the wind.

AUGUST 21

Warsaw
Poland 5 (Janas 1, Terlecki 49, Kmiecik 55 pen, Faber 65, Wieczorek 85)
Libya 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 30,000.

Poland were in training for their European championship visit to Switzerland, and it was wingers Sybia and Terlecki who turned the match for them after the Libyans, coached by Hungarian Florian Albert, resisted bravely for the first 45 minutes.

Poland: Mowlik — Dziuba, Wojcicki, Janas, Rudy (Wrobel) — Nawalka, Pawlowski — Sybis, Kapka (Faber), Kmiecik (Sobal), Terlecki.

AUGUST 29

Vienna — European championship group two
Austria 4 (Jara 42, Prohaska 46 pen, Kreuz 75, Krankl 86)
Norway 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 37,000. **Ref:** Fausek (Cz).

Despite the score Roy Amundsen, their goalkeeper, was Norway's best player as Austria clinched the predictable win which took them back to the top of the group — if only temporarily. Norway were weakened by injuries and the refusal of Dutch clubs to release several of their best players because of league games the same night, but they fought doggedly in the first half.

Nevertheless the Austrians could have been further ahead than one goal at the interval. In the first half hour Walter Schachner hit post and bar, first after a pass from skipper Robert Sara, then after a fine solo run.

Austria finally went in front with a 25-yard drive from one of the exiles, Kurt Jara, just before the break. And just after Einar Aas handled a Hans Krankl shot and Herbert Prohaska scored from the penalty.

Prohaska had a hand in No 3, providing the cross from which Willy Kreuz headed in, and it was another header — this time by Krankl from a Jara free kick — which provided the fourth goal.

Austria: Koncilia — Sara, Obermayer, Pezzey, Peapisil — Hattenberger, Kreuz, Jara — Schnachner, Prohaska (Weber 76), Krankl.

Norway: Amundsen — Pedersen, Vinje, E. Aas, Groendalen — Berntsen, Johansen, Thunberg (Ottesen 31) — Mathisen (Svendsen 73), Oekland, Jacobsen.

Mikkeli
Finland 0
Denmark 0
Att: 4,933.

Warsaw
Poland 3 (Lato 31, Terlecki 76, Boniek 84)
Rumania 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Mattson (Fin).

Swiss coach Leon Walker was in the crowd spying on the Poles in a game which brought opposite number Ryszard Kulesza some bad news.

With Antoni Szymanowski and Wladyslaw Zmuda both out injured and Zbigniew Boniek still recovering from throat trouble, Stanislas Terlecki was injured 10 minutes from time.

Poland: Kukla — Dziuba, Wieczorek, Janas, Rudy (H. Szymanowski 80) — Majewski (Baran 74), Boniek, Wojcicki — Lato, Kmiecik (Pawlowski 87), Terlecki (Sybis 80).

Rumania: Crisan — Anghelini, Koller (Zamfir 81), Sames, Grigore — Augustin, Crisan, Tirceanu — Radacanu, Iordanescu, Nicolae (Radu 46).

SEPTEMBER 2

Tunis
Tunisia 4 (Tounsi 44, Sassi 57, Brahim 77, Hergal 85)
Malta 0
HT: 1-0. **Att.** 14,000.

SEPTEMBER 5

Reykjavik — Euro ch'ship group four
Iceland 0
Holland 4 (Metgod 49, W. Van der Kerkhof 70, Nanninga 73 and 88)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 12,000. **Ref:** Thomas (Wales).

Easy for Holland in the end, though Jan Zwartkruis had to wait until the second half to see his men line up the goals — with two from Dick Nanninga, the man whose international availability depends on business in his wife's flower shop.

Zwartkruis had called up two new men — Feyenoord's Ben Wijnsteckers and Michel Van der Korput — in his sqiad, but neither played, though he did experiment with PSV's Huub Stevens in midfield.

Iceland: Bjarnasson — Haraldsson, Gudmundsson, Thorbjoernsson, Geirsson, J. Edvaldsson, Thordarsson, A. Edvaldsson, Petursson, Thorliefsson, Sveinsson.

Holland: Schrijvers — Poortvliet, Brandts, Krol, Hovenkamp — W. Van der Kerkhof, Stevens, Tahamata — La Ling, Nanninga, R. Van der Kerkhof.

Stockholm — Euro ch'ship group five
Sweden 1 (Backe 24)
France 3 (Lacombe 14, Platini 55, Battiston 71)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 14,395. **Ref:** Franco Martinez (Sp).

A good win for France, but Czechoslovakia remained group favourites, despite the result of Georg Ericsson's last home match as Swedish manager.

Ericsson, who retires at the year's end in favour of Lars Arnesson, named only five of the players who drew 2-2 in Paris a year ago, and suffered on early setback when Lacombe scored a fine goal after a sharp Bossis-Amisse-Platini move.

Sweden equalised with Rutger Backe's header in only his second international, but France squared the overall records between the nations at four wins each in nine games by taking over in style in the second half.

First Platini belted a drive up past Ronnie Hellström, then slack marking allowed Patrick Battiston to steal forward for the third.

Sweden: Hellström — Ronnberg, Jonsson, Borg, Erlandsson — Linderoth, Nordgren, Nordin — Gronhagen (Svensson 76), Backe, Johansson.

France: Dropsy — Battiston, Specht, Lopez, Bossis — Moisan, Bathenay, Platini — Rocheteau (Zimako 55), Lacombe, Amisse.

Moscow
Russia 1 (Gavrilov 70)
E. Germany 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 50,000. **Ref:** Körös (Hun).

Only a brilliant performance by veteran Jena goalkeeper Hans-Ulrich Grapenthin kept the scoreline so close.

Russia: Dassayev — Prigoda, Khidiatulin, Bubnow, Makhovikov — Daraselya (Schavlov 46), Kipiani, Maksimenkov — Gavrilov, Yartsev (Yurtschishin 46), Shengelia (Gess 46).

E. Germany: Grapenthin — Kische, Dörner, Weise, Baum (Schnuphase 46) — Häfner, Pommerenke (Lindemann 46), Weber — Riediger, Streich (Schade 78), Kühn (Hoffmann 59).

SEPTEMBER 11

Swansea
Wales 2 (Walsh 24, Curtis 52)
Rep. Ireland 1 (Jones own goal 22).
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 6,825. **Ref:** Stevens (Eng).

Crystal Palace forward Ian Walsh had a dream start to his international career. Replacing injured John Toshack he sent a powerful header down past goalkeeper Peyton to convert Micky Thomas's left wing cross. Two minutes before the Irish had gone ahead when Joey Jones headed a Liam Brady corner past his own goalkeeper. But Wales deserved their win, which was sealed when Leeds' Alan Curtis scored his first goal in 17 internationals, turning almost a complete circle before hitting a fine drive past Peyton.

Eamonn Gregg was booked in a game which was certainly hard enough for a friendly. The nearest the Irish got to a second goal was when Brendon O'Callaghan put the ball past Dai Davies, only to be given offside.

Wales: D. Davies — Nicholas, Berry, Phillips, J. Jones — Mahoney, Yorath, Flynn — Walsh, Curtis, Thomas.

Rep. Ireland: Peyton — Gregg, O'Leary, Martin, Mulligan — Grealish, Brady, Murphy — Stapleton, O'Callaghan, Ryan.

SEPTEMBER 12

Wembley — Euro ch'ship group one
England 1 (Keegan 17)
Denmark 0

HT: 1-0. **Att:** 85,000 (receipts £370,000). **Ref:** Dias Correia (Port).

The match was a let down after the big build-up, and it was fitting in an odd sort of way that it should have been England Captain Keegan whose goal won a game for which he was not 100 per cent fit.

England were left needing two points to be virtually sure of a place in Italy next June, but the Danes went home more than a little unhappy about the Portuguese referee Dias Correia.

Mick Mills was fortunate to escape giving away a penalty on two occasions, but on the other hand if Preben Elkjaer had taken that fourth-minute chance brilliantly carved by Allan Simonsen, the Danes might not have needed to worry about luck — good or bad.

England: Clemence — Neal, Thompson, Watson, Mills — Wilkins, McDermott, Brooking — Coppell, Keegan, Barnes.

Denmark: Jensen — Hajgaard, Busk, Ziegler, Olsen — Lerby, Arnesen, B. Nielsen (Bertelsen 60) — H. Jensen, Simonsen, Elkjaer (Berg 80).

Oslo — Euro ch'ship group two
Norway 1 (Jacobsen 7)
Belgium 2 (Janssens 31, Van der Elst 75)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 11,665. **Ref:** Jarguz (Pol).

Norway, as ever, produced a bright opening half hour and then faded. At least their early enthusiasm gained some reward when Jan Hansen put Paal Jacobsen through to beat Jean-Marie Pfaff. It wasn't enough, however. Slack work in defence allowed veteran Jean Janssens the chance to equalise and 20 minutes into the second half Francois Van der Elst — along with skipper Julien Cools the best of the Belgians — drove in a brilliant winner.

Nevertheless it needed the sharpness and agility of Pfaff to thwart a Norwegian revival and manager Tor Roests Fossen had some grounds for claiming afterwards that his team had deserved a draw.

Norway: Amundsen — Pedersen, Vinje, Aas, Groendalen — Albertsen, Hansen (Ottesen), Johansen — Jacobsen, Iversen (Mathisen), Thoresen.

Belgium: Pfaff — Gerets, Meeuws, Millecamps, Renquin — Cools, Van der Eycken, Vercauteren (Ceulemans) — Cluytens, Van der Elst, Janssens (Verheyen).

Lausanne — Euro ch'ship group four
Switzerland 0
Poland 2 (Terlecki 34, 63)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 25,000.

Poland increased the pressure on group leaders Holland with this win — both goals coming from LKS Lodz winger Stanislas Terlecki, who nearly missed the match because of injury.

Reykjavik — Euro ch'ship group four
Iceland 0
E. Germany 3 (Weber 64 pen and 70, Streich 77)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Thime (Norway).

On a previous visit in the European championship four years ago, the East Germans suffered a humiliating defeat. They were determined there would be no accidents this time, but it wasn't until the second half that they stamped their authority on the game with three goals in 13 minutes.

First Gerd Weber converted a penalty after goalkeeper Bjarnason brought down Hans-Jurgen Riediger. The same player then scored following a corner, and Joachim Streich added the third — the best of the evening — with a drive from 25 yards.

Athens (Panathinaikos) — Euro ch'ship group six
Greece 1 (Nikoloudis 25)
Russia 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 25,000. **Ref:** Garrido (Port).

The end of the road for Russia and perhaps the start of a new one for Greece. The Russians had replaced manager Nikita Simonyan in August and after the lively performance in the friendly against East Germany, they were cautiously optimistic.

However, for some reason they 'froze' in the bright sunshine and despite having plenty of possession in the second half when the Greeks concentrated on defending their lead, they rarely threatened to make much use of it.

Delikaris set up the only goal for Nikoloudis, and Damanakis could have had a second in the 35th minute, but headed over after Dasayev lost the ball in a scramble.

The nearest Russia came was in the 20th minute when Constantinou had to save at the feet of Kipiani, and in the 57th Maksimenkov hit a post. The Greeks had already suffered similar ill luck — in the 47th minute Ardizoglou headed a corner against an upright.

Greece: Constantinou — Gounaris (Dyrastas 75), Kapsis, Firos, Iosifides, Livathinos, Ardizoglou (Orfands 64), Delikaris, Damanakis, Nikoloudis, Galakos.

Russia: Dassayev — Prigoda (Somakhin 35), Nikulin, Khidiatulin, Makhovikov — Maksimenkov, Kipiani (Yurtschishin 46), Bubnov — Gavrilov, Chermenkov, Shengelia.

Nyiregyhaza
Hungary 2 (Tartar 11 pen, Kuti 38)
Czechoslovakia 1 (Panenka 83)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 27,000. **Ref:** Mathias (Aus).

The Czechs thought they had battled back to save a draw in the dying minutes, but Panenka's effort was disallowed for offside. Otherwise the European champions had the better of the game, but sadly lacked finishing power.

West Berlin
West Germany 2 (Allofs 47, Rummenigge 57)
Argentina 1 (Castro 84)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 50,000. **Ref:** U. Ericsson (Swe).

Argentina, fielding a B team with the exception of Passarella and Gallego, were more interested in trying out their youngsters than the result.

Cesar Menotti admitted as much, which didn't exactly please the Germans who gained little in prestige from this lively victory.

The Germans attacked throughout with Manni Kaltz in splendid raiding form from right back and Hansi Müller, apparently recovered from a row over his substitution in a league game, as skilful as ever in midfield.

Manager Jupp Derwall has yet to suffer defeat in his nine matches in charge and the Germans could have been well ahead by half time. Instead they had to wait until after the break for Klaus Allofs to head in a Kaltz cross and Rummenigge to nod in a chip over the goalkeeper from Müller.

Argentina fought back. Hernandez was narrowly off target with one drive, Passarella was close with a free kick and Gallego was booked as the tension started to increase.

Castro scrambled home a cross by Ocano for Argentina's consolation goal while Menotti juggled with his substitutes — who included 18-year-old Ramon Diaz, whose goals had just helped win them the World Cup in Japan.

West Germany: Burdenski — Kaltz, Förster, Cullman, Dietz — Bonhof, Schuster, H. Müller — Rummenigge, Fischer, Allofs.

Argentina: Vidalle — Bujedo, Van Tuyne, Passarella, Ocano — Gallego, Gaspari, Hernandez — Coscia (Lopez 56), Fortunato (Ramon Diaz 46), Robert Diaz (Castro 56).

Hampden
Scotland 1 (Hartford 6)
Peru 1 (Leguia 85)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 45,000. **Ref:** Courtney (Eng).

Scotland threw away their chance of revenge win for that World Cup defeat. John Wark was culprit No 1. He had helped create the opening goal for Asa Hartford, yet then missed a 36th minute penalty, which was stopped by the goalkeeper. And just before the end the Scots were caught napping when Mosquera gave Leguia the opening from which even a halfstruck shot was too much for Alan Rough in goal.

Dave Cooper might have had a couple of goals in his first international. But first he fired over the bar in the 15th minute, then Acasuzo produced a fine save in the 65th.

Scotland: Rough — Jardine, McQueen, Burns, Munro — Souness, Hartford, Wark (Aitken 71) — Cooper (Graham 71), Dalglish, Robertson.

Peru: Acasuzo — Gastulo, Olaechea, Chumpitaz, Diaz — Velasquez, Cueto, Mosquera, Leguia — La Rosa, Labarthe.

OLYMPIC, qual. — Aug 9 (Kuopio): Finland 0, Norway 1 (Davidson 83). Aug 29 (Mikkeli): Norway 0, Finland 0. Sep 12 (Prague): Czechoslovakia 1 (Janecka 37), Poland 0.

OTHER MATCHES. — Aug 2 (W. Bromwich): WBA 4, China 0. Aug 3 (La Linea): Malaga 1 (Nieto 66), Hungary Olympic 3 (Sekete 18, Weimper 35, Tatar 46). Aug 4 (Middlesbro): Middlesbro 2, China 0. Aug 5 (La Linea): Hungary Olympic 2 (Weimper 23, Sekete 58), Monterrey 0. — (Vetlanda): Vetlanda 1, E. Germany 6. Aug 8 (Landskrona): Landskrona 0, E. Germany 3. Aug 10 (Glasgow): Celtic 6, China 0. Aug 12 (Dordrecht): Dordrecht 1, E. Germany Olympic 5. Aug 21 (Plock): Poland Olympic 5 (Chojnacki 4), Beerschot 0. — (Paris): France 4 (Larios 23, Lopez 39, Zimako 85, Platini 76), Bayern Munich 1 (Janzon 89). Aug 22 (Bydgoszcz): Poland Olympic 2 (Miloszewicz, Piechaczek), Yugoslavia Olympic 1 (Sliskovic). Aug 26 (Turin): Juventus 3 (Tavola 4, Bettega 33, Causio 78), Rumania 1 (Georgescu 38). Aug 28 (Vienna): Austria B 2 (Hagmayr 64, Steinkogler 89), Norway B 0. Aug 29 (Kokkola): Finland under-21 0, Denmark under-21 2. Sep 11 (Gotwaldov): Czechoslovakia under-21 1 (Herda 6 pen), Hungary under-21 1 (Czepreghi 86). Sep 12 (Dublin, Tolka Pk): Rep. Ireland under-21 1 (Grimes 63 pen), Poland under-21 1 (Fajt 3).

WORLD YOUTH CUP (Japan)

Argentina became the second winners of the Cup when they beat holders Russia 3-1 in the final in Tokyo. Russia went ahead in the 51st minute when Sergei Stukhasev sent Igor Ponomarev through, but Argentina equalised quarter of an hour later. A Calderon shot was handled, and Hugo Alves converted the penalty. Argentina then took over the game, and won it with goals from Ramon Diaz (70) and midfield star Diego Maradona (75).

An auspicious ending to the tournament for Cesar Menotti, who had initially threatened to take his team home before the tournament began in a protest over food, accommodation and training facilities.

Group A — Mexico 1, Algeria 1 — Spain 1, Japan 0 — Spain 2, Mexico 1 — Japan 0, Algeria 0 — Spain 0, Algeria 1 — Japan 1, Mexico 1.

Group B — Poland 2, Yugoslavia 0 — Argentina 5, Indonesia 0 — Argentina 1, Yugoslavia 0 — Poland 6, Indonesia 0 — Argentina 4, Poland 1 — Yugoslavia 5, Indonesia 0.

Group C — Canada 3, Portugal 1 — Paraguay 3, S Korea 0 — Portugal 1, Paraguay 0 — S Korea 1, Canada 0 — Paraguay 3, Canada 0 — Portugal 0, S Korea 0.

Group D — Russia 5, Hungary 1 — Uruguay 5, Guinea 0 — Russia 3, Guinea 0 — Uruguay 2, Hungary 0 — Uruguay 1, Russia 0 — Hungary 2, Guinea 0.

Quarter finals: Poland 0, Spain 0 (4-3 pens) — Uruguay 1, Portugal 0 — Russia 2, Paraguay 2 (6-5 pens) — Argentina 5, Algeria 0.

Semi-finals: Argentina 2, Uruguay 0 — Russia 1, Poland 0.

Final: Argentina 3, Russia 1. Third place: Uruguay 1, Poland 1 (5-3 pens).

GUANABARA CUP 1979

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Clamengo	17	16	0	1	52	13	32
Vasco	17	12	1	4	44	12	25
Fluminense	17	10	3	4	40	15	23
Botafogo	17	9	5	3	39	16	23
Americano	17	9	4	4	28	24	22
Goytacaz	17	8	6	3	26	17	22
América	17	7	5	5	17	17	19
Campo Grande	17	7	5	5	14	16	19
Serrano	17	6		5	11	14	18
Bonsucesso	17	7	3	7	19	23	17
Madureira	17	4	6	7	18	23	14
Bangu	17	4	6	7	11	25	14
Fluminense	17	4	4	9	6	19	12
Volta Redonda	17	4	4	9	13	26	12
Sao Cristovao	17	3	3	11	8	32	9
Portuguesa	17	1	7	9	3	16	9
Niterol	17	3	2	12	12	37	8
Olaria	17	2	4	11	12	28	8

Top scorer: Zico (Flamengo) — 29 goals.

More League Tables next month

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the kind of player the fan may notice too much. But his role in Boskov's Madrid is vital. It is Angel who covers back whenever Pirri, Garcia Navajas or Camacho goes forward; it is Angel who seals the gaps, Angel who stands loose to play someone free with a one-two. Angel whose reading of a game was ideal in keeping Gijon out.

He also had the time to slip into attack just before the interval and might have had a penalty when Doria sent him flying. FIFA referee Emilio Guruceta said no — but it made little difference. Thirty seconds later Steilike sent Pirri in, and Juanito's close-range shot was turned helplessly into the net by Jimenez.

That was enough to win Juanito the earliest goal trophy, while Stielike had already clearly earned the best player award, just as Gijon 'keeper Castro took the prize for the most secure goalie.

Certainly, he conceded fewest goals, but the more spectacular action was reserved for Garcia Remon in the second half. Twice he flicked away drives from Uria and once he twisted brilliantly to catch a shot from Andres which had taken a deflection.

Not that Madrid stayed on the defensive. Cunningham went off after an hour playing a shadow match, but even so Juanito might have had a penalty, Stielike twice was just over from 30 yards, Santillana headed narrowly wide, and then forced the goalkeeper to two brave saves at his feet.

Madrid were deserved winners, only the second time the holders have successfully defended the trophy (Penarol were the previous double-winners).

They might well be back for another £100,000 next year, along with Barcelona. Traditionally the two giants of Spanish football avoid each other in these tournaments, but if they are going to meet then the Teresa Herrera is the right occasion.

Final teams:

Madrid: Garcia Remon — Cortes, Pirri, Garcia Navajas, Camacho — Angel (Portugal 83), Stielike, Del Bosque — Juanito, Santillana, Cunningham (Roberto Martinez 60).

Gijon: Castro — Redondo (Javi 80), Doria, Jimenez, Uria — Abel (Aguilar 46), Joaquin, David, Mesa (Andres 80) — Quini, Ferrero.

Previous winners: 1946 Sevilla, 1947 Bilbao, 1948 Barcelona, 1949 Real Madrid, 1950 Lazio Roma, 1951 Barcelona, 1952 Valencia, 1953 Real Madrid, 1954 Sevilla, 1955 Coruna, 1956 Atletico Madrid, 1957 Vaso da Gama, 1958 Nacional Montevideo, 1959 Santos, 1960 Sevilla, 1961 Sporting Lisbon, 1962 Coruna, 1963 Monaco, 1964 Coruna, 1965 Atletico Madrid, 1966 Real Madrid, 1967 Ferrol, 1968 Vitoria Setubal, 1969 Coruna, 1970 Ferencvaros, 1971 Red Star Belgrade, 1972 Barcelona, 1973 Atletico Madrid, 1974 Penarol, 1975 Penarol, 1976 Real Madrid, 1977 Fluminense, 1978 Real Madrid.

● Continued from page 7

1956 — Champions — for the last time so far in the big year of change. The European Cup is coming up. In preparation Honved hammer Brazil's Botafogo 6-2 in Budapest (leading 5-0 at half-time) and then FK Austria 7-3. In Europe they are drawn against Spain's Bilbao — but shortly after leaving Budapest, the party learn of the ill-fated Hungarian Revolution. Meanwhile they play on — despite the payers' fears for their families at home.

In Bilbao, in the first round first leg, Honved lost 3-2. Then they play Read Madrid in a friendly, drawing 5-5 with two goals in the last three minutes. The players don't want to return to strife-torn Budapest. So the Bilbao return is arranged for Brussels. On the eve of the game Sebes arrives with a plea from the new government for the players all to return home. Meanwhile some of the stars' families have slipped out of Hungary and joined their husbands.

In the Heysel stadium Bilbao go 3-1 ahead, with Czibor limping and Farago shattering a collarbone. With time running out Czibor goes in goal, but though Kocsis and Puskas equalise, the 3-3 draw is not enough. Honved are out.

Now what? The players vote against returning home . . . yet, and go to South America for a series of controversial friendlies to raise money to keep the party and their families fed.

1957 — The party is over. Tichy, Machos, Palicsko and Solti all drift home. So does Bozsik. Czibor goes to Italy and Tries to sign for Roma, but the Hungarian FA block the move through FIFA. So the outside left goes to Spain where he eventually joins Barcelona, as does Kocsis. Puskas, after toying with offers from Milan and Inter, joins Real Madrid.

1957-58 — Meanwhile . . . Karoly Sostakes over as Honved coach back in Budapest and takes his rebuilt team to second place in the league. Tichy is the league's equal top scorer with 21 goals.

1958-59 — Tichy, Buzsik and Budai share one last triumph together as Honved beat MTK Budapest (ex Voros Lobogo) 4-3 2-2 to win the Mitropa Cup.

1959-60 — Sos is replaced in midseason by assistant and former international forward Gyorgy Babolcsay.

1960-61 — More problems at the top. Sebes takes over the team briefly, without much success — his days are past. At least Tichy is again equal top scorer in the league with 21 goals.

1961-62 — Bozsik retired after playing his 100th international against Uruguay. Tichy is again the best marksman in the league with 23 goals. Gyula Lorant, one-time centre back, is the new coach.

1962-63 — Lorant goes to Greece, succeeded by Mihaly Kispeter.

1963-64 — Honved win the Cup, Tichy wins the goals award again, with 28. Inside left Imre Komora (now team director) helps Hungary to their 2-1 Olympic final win over Czechoslovakia in Tokyo.

1964-65 — Honved lose 0-2, 1-0 v. Lausanne in the Cup-winners' first round. At home they are beaten 4-3 after extra time in the Cup Final by Vasas.

1965-66 — Bozsik is coach now, leaning heavily on veteran stars Tichy and tough half back Ferenc Sipos. In the Cup-winners' Honved lose 0-0, 0-2 to Liverpool after beating Lahden Reipas 6-0, 10-2 and Dukla 2-3, 2-1.

1966-67 — Bozsik falls ill — Babolcsay returns in charge.

1967-68 — Kalman Preiner the new coach. Central defender Miklos Pancsics wins an Olympic winners' medal in the 4-1 win over Bulgaria in Mexico City.

1968-69 — Runners-up.

1969-70 — Third and Cup Final runners-up to Ujpest with an ultra defensive 1-4-2-3 formation.

1979-71 — Mihaly Kozma makes his name in the first full season by topping the league scoring charts with 25 goals. In the Cup-winners' second round Honved fall 0-1, 0-2 to Manchester City, having beaten Aberdeen 3-1, 1-3 (pens).

1971-72 — Ex-Kispest international Jozsef Meszaros is the next coach.

1972-73 — Fourth. In the UEFA Cup Honved beat Partick 1-0, 3-0 and lose 0-3, 1-0 v Beroe Stara Zagora.

1973-74 — Sixth — but Kozma is league top scorer with 27 goals. In the UEFA Cup beat Kosice 0-1, 5-2, Plovdiv 4-3, 3-2, and crash 2-0, 0-5 v Chorzow.

1974-75 — Olympic-winning boss Karoly Lakat takes the first team to runners-up spot — Kozma hits 20 goals to share top marksman's prize.

1975-76 — Fourth. In the UEFA Cup: 2-1, 1-1 v Bohemians, 2-2, 0-1 v Dresden.

1976-77 — Fourth. UEFA Cup: 1-0, 1-1 v Inter, 0-3 2-3 v Shakhtor Donetsk.

1977-78 — Runners up, one point behind Ujpest. Gujdar, Kocsis and Pinter go to the World Cup Finals. On the eve of the Argentina game Bozsik dies in Budapest after a heart attack.

1978-79 — Honved lead for half the season, then slip to finish fifth, 11 points adrift! At least Kocsis (Istvan, that is) is voted Player of the Year.

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Rangers: McCloy — Jardine, Dawson, Smith, Jackson, Watson, McLean (J. MacDonald), Russell, Johnstone (Robertson), A. MacDonald, Cooper.

Lilleström: Amundsen — Hammer, Berg, Kordahl, L. Hansen, Gronlund, Erlandsson, Lonstad, Dokken, Holth, V. Hansen.

Rangers struggled with goalkeeper Amundsen in fine form for the Norwegians, coached by former Bradford City forward Joe Hooley. Gordon Smith, who passed a fitness test just before the game, smashed in the winner from a Watson cross.

Erlandsson and Vidor Hansen were superb in defence for Lilleström.

Preliminary round — second legs

Apoel 0
BK1903 Copenhagen 1 (Larsen 67)

HT: 0-0. **Att:** 2,500. **Ref:** Nikic (Yug). Sept. 8.
Copenhagen win 7-0 on agg.

Lilleström 0
Rangers 2 (A. MacDonald 45, Johnstone 89)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 6,200. **Ref:** Peltola (Fin). Sept. 5.
Rangers win 3-0 on agg.

Lilleström: Amundsen — Hammer, Berg, Kordahl, R. Hansen, Gronlund, Erlandsson, Lonstad, Dokken, Holth, V. Hansen.

Rangers: McCloy — Miller, Dawson, Jardine, Jackson, Watson, McLean, Russell, Johnstone, A. MacDonald, Smith.

It was never the struggle Rangers feared. A Miller-Watson move set up the first for Alex MacDonald and the Scots could have had several more but for Amundsen, before Derek Johnstone's last-minute second.

Rangers' goalkeeper Peter McCloy was never in trouble.

CUP OF THE ALPS
Metz — Final (£5,000 first prize)

Metz 1 (Kasperczak 31)
Monaco 3 (Couriol 68, Ricort 83, Mills 88)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 4,406. **Ref:** Konrath (Fr).

Metz: Rey — Jenny, Loiseau, Battiston, Zdun — Braciglano, Kasperczak, Chebel — Rivat, Formica, Diallo.

Monaco: Ettori — Puel, Gardon, Ninot, Barral — Molzan (Christophe 46), Bijoutat, Couriol — Emon, Mills, Ricort.

Previous winners: 1960 Italy (overall), 1962 Genoa, 1963 Juventus, 1964 Genoa, 1966 Napoli, 1967 Eintracht Frankfurt, 1968 Schalke, 1969 Basle, 1970 Basle, 1971 Lazio Rome, 1972 Nimes, 1973 Servette, 1974 Young Boys Berne, 1975 Servette, 1976 Servette, 1977 Reims, 1978 Basle.

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